

SOCCER

WEEKLY

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McCULLOCH FOR APIA

BY BRAD EARL

TOMMY McCULLOCH agreed to terms with Apia Leichhardt yesterday and the Australian midfielder could be transferred from Marconi this week.

Marconi hoped to work a swap deal for Apia's Ian Gray last week, but Gray has also been offered terms by Sydney Croatia.

The two young midfielders, who toured with the national squad in the summer, have been sitting on the sidelines as the new National League season gets underway.

McCulloch was placed on the transfer list three weeks

**Gray swap
in doubt**

ago for \$30,000 after failing to come to terms with Marconi, while Gray had his transfer fee of \$25,000 reduced to \$22,000 by appeal.

In an exclusive interview, McCulloch expressed his disappointment at comments that

have been made about him in the press.

Les Scheinflug, who was McCulloch's boss at Marconi, has been critical of his decision to leave Marconi.

Eddie Thomson also accused McCulloch of looking for

more money in his column in Sydney's Sunday Telegraph yesterday.

"I've copped a few kicks in the teeth from Les and a few others," McCulloch said.

"Les should be worried about the players he's got, not the ones who have left."

"I've been accused of being greedy, but my decision to leave the club had nothing to do with money."

"I was satisfied with Marconi's offer, but it's no use playing for a club just for the money."

"I wasn't happy at Marconi and I felt I needed to join a new club."

McCulloch is looking forward to playing for Apia, and he is keen to win a place in the Australian team



□ TOMMY McCULLOCH is tackled by Apia Leichhardt's Terry Butler. McCulloch is set to transfer to Apia this week.



□ BRIAN JACKSON

**Jackson
is back**

PENRITH CITY's National League squad has been boosted by the return of striker Brian Jackson from England yesterday.

And right midfielder Ian Wotherspoon is expected back in Australia from Britain in midweek.

Blond-headed Jackson, 23, and Wotherspoon, 24, will boost Penrith's attacking strength.

Former Australian Youth international left winger Rene Licata made his debut for the Panthers in their 0-0 draw against St George yesterday.

Penrith have secured Licata from Marconi on loan with an option to buy next season.

In other Penrith news, Peter Nix was left out of the opening NSL match as he has failed to agree to terms.

Nix played in midfield in Penrith's Ampol and NSL Cup matches, but he has been transfer-listed since the end of last season.

— BRAD EARL

The skilful 21-year-old had an impressive world tour and he could be a key man in Australia's bid to qualify for the World Cup Finals in Mexico later this year.



□ IAN GRAY

for the two international matches in May.

SCHEINFLUG BLASTS REFEREE RAMPLEY

GRIM-FACED Marconi coach Les Scheinflug vowed yesterday that he would try to avoid having referee Peter Rampley appointed to the club's matches in future.

Scheinflug was livid over what he claimed was sub-standard refereeing by Rampley in the 3-3 draw with Sydney Croatia before an enthusiastic crowd at King Tomislav Park.

Perhaps Scheinflug's attitude was not helped by the fact that David Rezo's equalis-

ing goal arrived two minutes into injury-time.

Scheinflug believes that Mark Jankovics had been pushed in the back in the lead-up play and Croatia should have been penalised.

He was also aghast over the awarding of a 16th minute penalty against Paul Carter, from which Croatia's Graham Arnold scored.

• CONTINUED P4

BY KEITH GILMOUR

MARCONI v NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD SUNDAY MARCH 17 MARCONI STADIUM



□ TONY HENDERSON



□ DAVID LOWE



Youth League
Match
12.45 PM



□ JOE SENKALSKI



□ CLINT GOSLING

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McKIE ADDS LIFE

BY FRANK COLETTA

PARRAMATTA MELITA's season so far has been a rather lacklustre one and if it had not been for the injection of life brought about by Johnny McKie's entry in the second half, they would have suffered yet another defeat.

The final score was 1-1 but Melita can be glad a 77th minute breakaway "goal" by substitute James was disallowed for offside.

Bankstown had by far the better of the first half and went one-up when in the 35th minute, Melita full-back Stead brought a flying Jim Meerbani crashing to the ground.

Meerbani lifted himself up to take the spot-kick only to see Steve Giffin save his shot, but from the ensuing rebound Meerbani scored.

Melita brought this patchy and uninspiring match to life in the second term with the arrival of McKie, who came on for Walker after 67 minutes.

Within seconds of the breakaway by James which culminated in the disallowed "goal" an unexpected counter-attack had Melita level.

The ball was pumped up to Lenny Vial who hit a "dynamite" drive from 20 metres into the back of the net.

MELITA: Giffin, Laing, O'Rourke, Stead, McKie, Williamson, Cullinan, Vial, Allen, Walker (McKie), McAusland.

BANKSTOWN: Smith, Rajab, Green, Penman, Ismail, Darlington, Hassan (Hammoud), Haseem (James), Khan, Meerbani, Housseini.

□ □ □

FAIRY MEADOW's form from last week continued on against Ku-ring-gai on the weekend at Cromer Park when they won 2-0.

Looking like the team that wanted victory most, Fairy Meadow took the lead after 28 minutes when Mowbrey was "Johnny on the spot" to tap the ball home after some good lead-up by Glen Fontana.

Ku-ring-gai were certainly not at full strength but this is not to detract from John Fleming's boys.

Fleming's forwards were very impressive, especially Glen Fontana, who certainly seems to have retained all his Wollongong form.

Fairy Meadow's centre-forward Baker fashioned the finish when he put together a solo effort on the edge of the Ku-ring-gai area.

He collected the ball 18 metres out, turned, shook off a couple of challengers and drove a scintillating shot into the top right hand corner.

Admittedly Ku-ring-gai had their chances, but they showed a likeness to "walking the ball in".

FAIRY MEADOW: Krajevich, White (Chilby), Morlander, Jones, Beringer (Kiarson), Tiel (Johnston), Montachy, Gerald, Baker, Mowbrey, Fontana.

KU-RING-GAI: Lacey, Goldsworthy, Jesse, Bertram, Kevern, Ellem, Shearer (Bennett), Sutherland, Dene, Nile, Hunter.

□ □ □

MANLY took out this match with a brace of goals, one at the outset and one at the final whistle.

Jimmy Campbell, Manly's livewire midfielder, opened their account with only four minutes on the clock, with an intelligent lob that Uruguay keeper Rosano could only help into the net.

Uruguay had their chance to equalise but Tony Oshana was caught offside after being fed a super ball by Arrelo.

With chances being few and far between misses such as the mess up between Holloway and Pagano could have proven fatal, Pagano slung through a pinpoint pass into Holloway's path who with the goal at his mercy cut the ball back to Pagano who could do nothing.

In the 90th minute Manly sealed the points with substitute Ashley Williamson scoring.

MANLY WARRINGAH: Conradi, Pierce (Williamson), S. Dick, J. Dick, Foy, Pagano, Steven, Campbell, R. Stuart, Holloway, Fox (Jabriel).

URUGUAY AUBURN: Rosano, Jones, Folladosh, Hastie, Krislovic, Carrizo, Arrelo, Palma, Oshana, J. Fernandez, Pagano.

OTHER RESULTS:

Rockdale 3 Warringah 0

Canterbury 1 Avals 2

Sutherland 1 Polonia 3

NSL YOUTH LEAGUE RESULTS

Inter-Monaro 3 (Chicco, Gagetti, D'Addario), AIS 3 (Mullen 2, Cumming).

Sydney City 2 (Parish, Patterson), Blacktown 0.

Newcastle 1 (Thompson), Olympic 2 (Chlias, Polias).

Apia 1 (Beddoni), Wollongong 0.

Sydney Croatia 3 (Caleta 2, Medanic), Marconi 3 (Markovski, Reid, Luchetti).

Penrith 1 (Felix), St George 2 (Hranry, Watson).

FERENC PUSKAS

St George
Old Boys

Steve Feher
Tony Balazs
Joe Pompor
Frank Aranyi
Frank Lang
George Kovacs
Lendi Saghi
Atti Abonyi
Illye Takacs
Ferenc Puskas
Les Schumann
Tibbi Zuckerman
Les Murray
Eric Apay
Joe Bednar
Steve Kacsics
John Boroczy



MARCH 17
ST GEORGE STADIUM
St George
Budapest Old Boys
V

Pan Hellenic Old Boys

3 PM — CURTAIN-RAISER

NSL MATCH — St George V Sydney Olympic — 4 PM

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FERENC PUSKAS

Hungarian star is coming to Sydney

FERENC PUSKAS, a man who terrorised centre-backs and froze goalkeepers all over the world during the 1950s and '60s, arrives in Sydney on Thursday.

He will make official promotional appearances for the St George Budapest Soccer club.

St George manager-coach Frank Arok has contracted Puskas from March 14 to 18.

And he will pull on those boots one more time for St George Old Boys on Sunday afternoon (March 17) at St George Stadium in a match billed as "the Old Boys" of St George Budapest v Pan Hellenic Old Stars.

World star is born

Our younger readers may well ask "Who is Ferenc Puskas?"

Born in 1927 in Budapest, Puskas was destined to become one of the world's greatest strikers — a name which brought huge crowds, goals, money and glory where ever he played right across Europe.

Briefly, this was Ferenc Puskas.

During the 1942-43 season at the age of 16, Puskas burst his way into the Hungarian First Division side, Kispest.

It was the start of a footballing career that has become immortalised alongside such names of Pele, Beckenbauer, Cruyff and Di Stefano.

In 1949, Kispest changed its name to the now-famous Honved.

This orthodox, "un-orthodox" inside-left played for Honved from 1943 until the infamous Hungarian Revolution, in which time Puskas cracked in 312 goals for the club with his lethal left boot.

Honved won the Hungarian championship five times whilst Puskas was with the club.

Puskas represented Hungary at the of 18, and notched up 84 full international caps and scored 83 goals to become a soccer legend throughout the world.

England destroyed

In 1952, Puskas captained the Hungarian Olympic team in Helsinki and won for his country the Olympic gold medal.

England soon felt the whip-marks from this Hungarian

marksman when Puskas played against Billy Wright's untouchables at Wembley on November 25, 1953.

This was a date never to be forgotten by man, woman or

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

child born in England.

The "Magical Magyars" (Hungarians) marched out onto the famous Wembley turf and methodically destroyed the Englishmen to the tune of 6-3.

To this day, England captain Wright, who had the unenviable task of trying to shackle Puskas, relives nightmares.

The Hungarians struck fear throughout Europe at the time, and England, licking her wounds, challenged Hungary to a return match in Budapest in May 1954.

The Hungarians readily obliged six months after the Wembley wipe-out.

This time it was a bigger defeat for England. Hungary won 7-1 in Budapest.

That same year in the World Cup Finals in Switzerland, Hungary were favourites but were tricked by the Germans and lost the Final 3-2, despite leading 2-0 after only 10 minutes.

Hungary's goalscorers were Puskas and Czibor. Puskas did in fact score another goal only to see it disallowed for a narrow offside decision.

Off to Spain

In 1956, the Hungarian Revolution broke out, forcing Puskas, the prince of strikers, to leave his beloved country and start another career in Spain.

He was immediately signed up by crack Spanish club Real Madrid, where he teamed up with another lethal goalscorer, Alfredo Di Stefano, an Argentinian.

These two strikers combined to tear opposition defences apart with their incredible scoring achievements.

They helped Real Madrid to a world record by winning the European Cup for five

consecutive years.

With Real, Puskas played from 1957 until 1967, in which time the club won the Spanish championship and the European Cup six times.

In those 10 years in Spain, Puskas was the league's top goalscorer on four occasions.

Cup glory in Scotland

In 1960, Real Madrid faced the slick German side Eintracht Frankfurt in the European Cup Final in Scotland, where no fewer than 135,000 Scots jammed into Hampden Park to witness a "Puskas Production of Destruction".

In short, Real wiped out the Germans 7-3, with Puskas setting up his mate Di Stefano to score three goals and then rifling in the other four.

When he retired from Spanish football, Puskas had made his mark in the record books of Real with a total of 177 goals for the world-famous Spanish club.

Puskas the coach

With his boots hung up, Puskas turned his

talents to coaching.

In 1970, he was signed by the Greek ace club Panathinaikos, home of Mimi Domazos, and led the hysterical Greeks to Wembley in 1971 to meet Ajax in the European Cup Final.

With the Greeks more than holding the deadly Dutchmen, an argument broke out in the dressing room between some Greek prima donnas at half-time, robbing Puskas of another European Cup success.

Leaving Greece, Puskas coached in South Arabia (1975), with Chile's Colo Colo (1976-77), and back to Greece to coach AEK to win the Greek championship in 1977.

Puskas now earns his living from a sausage business he owns in Spain.

Now this world soccer legend comes to Australia this week.

On Sunday at 3pm, wearing the famous No 10 shirt, Ferenc Puskas will come out of the St George tunnel leading former greats of St George Budapest, Abonyi, Kovacs, Saghi, Zuckerman, Schauman, Pompor, Bednar, Lang, Aranyi, Feher and Csardas.

It will be a historic occasion as fans will have the rare opportunity to see this soccer legend on Australian soil.



□ ABOVE: PUSKAS swings in a corner with his powerful left foot.

□ LEFT: WITH Real Madrid striking partner, Di Stefano (left).

□ BELOW: EXCHANGING bouquets with England captain Billy Wright.



ENGLISH ARRIVES TO BOOST CANBERRA

TOMMY ENGLISH, who served his professional apprenticeship with Coventry City and played alongside England's World Cup striker Mark Hateley, has arrived in Australia to serve a six-month contract with Canberra City Olympians.

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

English was born October 18, 1961, in the township of Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

Standing at 5'10", he didn't strike me as being a target-man.

"I'm not, you know," said English.

"I have been referred to as one, but I never have been," he said.

"I'm an out-and-out striker who likes to work inside the box off a target-man. A box-worker, if you like."

Tommy made his debut in Coventry's first team at the age of 17 against Stoke City.

English rates his best game as the one that sent Leicester City into Second Division in 1980 as his best game.

"I knocked in a hat-trick which sunk Leicester into Second Division," smiled Tommy.

But instead of holding a grudge for what English did to them, Leicester immediately turned around and bought him for \$380,000!

"I had a free clearance from Leicester after being with them for four years, and had offers from Malta, Greece and Germany."

"Then I received this one from Canberra and decided I would like to try Australia."

English played over 150 matches and scored 70 goals with Coventry and Leicester.



□ TOMMY ENGLISH pictured on arrival in Australia.

All the NSL action — Northern Division

Sydney Croatia.....3
Marconi.....3

• FROM PAGE 1

Carter was standing on the inside of Jurin when the ball arrived and was forced to stretch out and try to contain him.

The penalty was taken, Bruce James pushed it out and Arnold dashed in to volley it home.

Scheinflug also charged Rampley with confusing everybody during the game, adding that he normally did not criticise referees.

On one particular occasion Steve Calderan went up to pluck a long ball up the right touch-line from over his head. Rampley appeared to play on and then decided that he had to caution Calderan.

Whilst this was happening James impeded Jurin inside the box and naturally no penalty could be awarded.

Croatia's coach Vedral Rozic admitted unhappiness on this point but, after acknowledging that his side had some luck to obtain an injury-time draw, he said he believed the refereeing was good in a good match.

Certainly Croatia did everything right on their marvellously improved playing area, including a display of junior players and traditional Croatian dancing before the game.

In the play, Arnold netted twice for Croatia and Mark Jankovics managed the same for Marconi.

It was indicative of the play that Arnold's goals came in the first half and Jankovics' in the second.

The best goal was from Arnold in the 27th minute. The outstanding Tom Basic broke from midfield, Wally Savor dashed up the right and Arnold made no mistake from the cross.

Steve Calderan scored following a Peter Tredinnick free-kick for 2-1 at half-time.

Jim Patikas ran strongly in the second half but Marconi seemed to be home and hosed at 3-2 until Rezo equalised at 3-3 in injury time.

Man of the match: PETER TREDINNICK, although, as he would be aware, at times his passing did not reach the level it does as a general rule.

MARCONI: James, Carter, Rizzotto, Henderson, Calderan, Mason, Driene (Gunning 29, Sharpe 68), Lowe, Brown, Jankovics, Tredinnick.

SYDNEY CROATIA: Woodhouse, A. Kovacic, Tomasic, Basic, Woods, Vidale, Jurin (Meades 74), Savor, Arnold, Patikas, M. Kovacic (Rezo 68).

REFEREE: P. Rampley.
CROWD: 6,452.

Penrith defence looks the part

BY BRAD EARL

PENRITH CITY's back-line showed they will be a strong, if under-rated, force again this season in their scoreless draw with St George at Cook Park.

Paul Daley has left the club, but his place at sweeper has been ably filled by Jeff Ainsworth, while the rest of the defence remains unchanged.

Goalkeeper Mike Gibson and stopper Davie McIntosh dominated in the air, while Ainsworth and full-backs Peter Brogan and Mickey Cross were in control on the ground.

However, coach Willie Wallace is yet to settle on the structure of his midfield and forward line, with Brian Jackson and Ian Wotherspoon still to come into the team.

Against Saints, Bobby Hebb and Rene Licata made their debuts, with Hebb, from Third Division Mt Druitt Town, pleasing Wallace with his display in central midfield.

Licata, the young left winger on loan from Marconi, added a great deal of width to Penrith's attack but lacked penetration mainly due to David Skeen's capable defending.

Nothing can be taken away from Saints' back-line either, with Mike O'Shea and Andrew Koczka shutting out Randall Easthorpe and Ian Hunter respectively.

Mark Barton made some strong

Penrith0
St George.....0

runs from midfield, and in the 25th minute he failed to connect properly with a shot from seven metres and Gibson blocked the attempt.

In the 18th minute, Roy Cotton, playing against his old club, switched the ball across the 18-yard line for John O'Shea to strike well, with Gibson blocking it from going just inside the post.

Two minutes later, Dave Ratcliffe lined up a shot which was blocked by Ainsworth's head as Saints looked to grab a goal lead at half-time.

Three minutes after the break, Cotton put the ball into the path of Barton just inside the penalty area, but he toed his shot high of the goal.

The action petered away as the match wore on and it was clear that Penrith were happy to earn a point from this first-up clash.

Man of the match: Penrith City captain **MICKEY CROSS** defended very well at left-back, untroubled by Robbie Slater and overlapping runs of Skeen.

PENRITH: Gibson; Brogan, Cross, Ainsworth, McIntosh; Carboni (Shute 57), Hebb, Toohy; Hunter, Easthorpe, Licata.

ST GEORGE: Greedy; Skeen, Koczka, Ratcliffe, M. O'Shea; Stone, Barton, J. O'Shea; Slater, Petkovski (Marton 45), Cotton.

REFEREE: J. Reeves.
CROWD: 398.



JOHN KOSMINA

KOSMINA SINKS DEMONS

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

JOHN KOSMINA, Australia's World Cup captain, and the nation's deadliest, most consistent goalscorer, was at it again, scoring another two goals to sink Blacktown City 3-1 in the NSL at Wentworth Park.

Kosmina, the terror of goalkeepers, has scored five goals in two weeks.

Last week Kosmina hit a hat-trick against St George in the NSL Cup and the blond striker has served early warning his thirst for goals is far from being quenched.

Sydney City face a problem this season in their bid to win yet another championship. They need serious, tough opposition to bring the best out of them.

Against Blacktown City, Eddie Thomson's boys took full control from the kick-off and Kosmina scored his first goal in the 16th minute, following a Joe Watson corner.

Eight minutes later, Sydney City's captain Murray Barnes crashed a first-time 15 metre rocket from the right after Grant Lee's drive from the left was blocked by a Blacktown defender near the goal-line.

From here, Sydney City allowed themselves to fall into a period of lapsed concentration, as they found little opposition blocking their path to another "monotonous" victory.

But their lethargy was stung in the 36th minute when Blacktown's new midfielder, Stephen Knight, slammed a 25 metre bomb into Sydney's net with Todd Clarke fully stretched airborne to his right.

Knight's goal completely revitalised Blacktown's assault, as their captain and sweeper Robbie Wheatley drove

Sydney City3
Blacktown.....1

his midfielders, Knight, Selvage and Thornthwaite, to make their champion foe fight for the points.

With five minutes remaining, Sydney City stretched their lead to 3-1, again through Kosmina as Farina busted clear down the right flank. Farina whipped in his cross looking for Kosmina.

Blacktown's goalkeeper Barry Hoare only managed to half-block the cross, spilling the ball to Kosmina and you know the rest.

Sydney City's captain Murray Barnes said: "Blacktown are a far better side this year and showed a willingness to make a fight of it after Knight's goal, but we do need some tough games to bring the best out of us."

Casey de Bruin, Blacktown's coach, stated: "I was satisfied with the boys' effort, as they were willing to come back and make something of it."

Eddie Thomson, Sydney City's coach, reflected: "We need tough matches and Blacktown gave us this after they scored their goal. They made us fight a bit for the points".

Man of the match: Blacktown's young left-midfielder **BRETT THORNTHWAITE**, who tackled well, went in looking for the ball and constantly tried to set up his strikers.

SYDNEY CITY: Clarke; Cant, O'Connor, Robertson, de Marigny; Watson, Gomez, Barnes; Farina, Kosmina, Lee (Fletcher 72).

BLACKTOWN CITY: Hoare; Skellern, Rasmussen, Wheatley, Bourke; Knight, Selvage (Hormazabal 83), Thornthwaite; Larkin, Bradley, O'Connor.

REFEREE: R. Lorenc.
CROWD: 400.

WELCOME HOME!

Leichhardt4 Wollongong2

THE "welcome home day" at Lambert Park yesterday ended like all fairytales should with the local heroes the victors who ran off with the spoils.

The "good guys" were Apia Leichhardt, back on their old stamping ground after a two year exodus, who downed Wollongong Wolves 4-2 in a highly entertaining struggle.

Whether or not Fil Bottalco's Apia will now live happily ever after remains to be seen.

However this Apia line-up, a mixture of youth and experience, has the makings of a more than useful outfit, with just the finishing touches to be added.

One of the players with the ability to achieve this is brilliant Socceroo midfielder Tom McCulloch who has agreed on terms to join the Lambert Park club and who watched the game yesterday.

Throughout his dispute with the Marconi club he has acted like a

true professional — despite some of his detractors attempting, and failing miserably, to state otherwise.

If there were more players with an attitude like McCulloch's, then Australian soccer would be much the richer as the Apia club will be when they sign this talented performer.

One youngster who looked the goods yesterday for Apia was young Vince Caligiuri who put his side into a two-goal lead in the second and 15th minutes.

The home side went three ahead in the 55th minute when Tony Genovese inspired an "own goal" by Peter Willis that should have ended the ball game.

But to their credit Wollongong fought back well and goals by Alex Bundalo in the 56th mi-

BY TOM ANDERSON

nute and Dominic Gianone in the 73rd minute set a few hearts pumping.

But all's well that ends well and another goal by Genovese in the 80th minute made it a happy homecoming for Apia.

Wollongong is also a young side with a smattering of experience and on this showing they should more than hold their own — especially at home.

In young Alex Bundalo they have a class player with a big future ahead of him.

Man of the match: big **ARNO BERTOGNA** in a destructive midfield role. He gave a storming 90 minute display that lifted all around him in the Apia team to greater heights.

APIA: Catlin; Spina, Mariani, Rowden, Brown; Bertogna, Butler, De Ceglie; Caligiuri (Genovese 45, Casacchia 83), Caban, Morsello.

WOLLONGONG: Vardareff; Green, Matias (Brodnik 45), Dickson, Willis; Hristovski, Kerr, Bundalo; Godzik, Kotamanidis, Giannone.

REFEREE: K. Small.
CROWD: 2,217.



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All the NSL action — Northern Division

ENGLISH IMPORTS HAD THE CLASS

Canberra.....3 Inter Monaro.....0

CANBERRA CITY's two former English First Division players, Steve Bryant and Tommy English, provided the class to beat Inter Monaro 3-0 at Selfert Oval.

In their National League debut, Monaro dominated early play and Tony Brennan shot just wide after good lead-up by Baz Giampaolo.

But English, only three days off the plane from London, nearly chipped keeper Mike Hocking with his first touch — then shot too high with his next two strikes.

Bryant and Tom Sermanni began to dominate the midfield but Brennan forced a reflex save from Anthony Franken and the ball went from end to end.

BY KEN HEALEY

Marko Perinovic missed an open goal after English had fed him.

Then in the 36th minute Terry Byrne saw English unmarked on the left and hit a well weighted pass.

The striker beat two defenders and the keeper to score from an acute angle.

Five minutes after the break Canberra made it 2-0 when Sermanni's free-kick found the net with Monaro's wall still being marshalled.

Canberra went off the boil and Monaro attacked strongly but was soon reduced to long shots.

In the absence of transfer-listed skipper Walter Valeri the Monaro marksmen lacked power.

Just when English should have run out of steam he took a Bryant pass near half way, ran goalwards and crossed immaculately to Perinovic whose shot at the far post from five metres crashed into the net.

English nearly scored again a minute later. His debut overshadowed

the debut of Monaro for whom Giampaolo, Mark Francis, Chris Thamnidis and John Santolin all tried hard.

Canberra is slowly running into form but still has work to do.

Sydney referee Tim Davies gave an impressive display with the whistle.

Man of the match: it had to be TOMMY ENGLISH, bearing in mind he hardly had time to get his land legs in a new country before playing for Canberra.

MONARO: Hocking, Francis, Walsh, Santolin, Titilas, Budini, Willox, Carbone, Thamnidis, Brennan, Giampaolo, (C. Ambrosino 78).

Canberra: Franken, Mihailidis, Jones, Harkins, Burke, Byrne, Sermanni, Bryant, Perinovic, English, Gibson, (Ontong 87).

REFEREE: T. Davies. CROWD: 2,100.

RIGHT: MARKO PERINOVIC, the Canberra striker who scored the third goal against Monaro.



DEADLOCK BROKEN

Sydney Olympic.....1 Newcastle.....0

BY NEIL JAMESON

"THAT's the best scoreless draw you'll ever see," was the sentiment going around the ground five minutes before the final whistle of the Newcastle v Sydney Olympic thriller at Adamstown.

But the thought was premature as Chris Kalantzis laid on an 85th minute cross for Marshall Soper to squeeze in Olympic's winner.

While Manfred Schaefer gave thanks for two precious points, Willie Gallagher had a right to feel slightly cheated.

Newcastle had matched their enterprising opponents for skill, pace and fire power every step of the way and are still wondering about a penalty that wasn't given.

In the 11th minute Malcolm McClelland seized on a wayward backpass, beat Gary Meier but was upended as he attempted to hurdle the keeper.

It was just one of numerous highlights in a scintillating opening 20 minutes in which both keepers worked overtime to keep out a flurry of shots on goal.

Kalantzis and Katholos for Olympic and Milosevic and Kerby for Newcastle needed only a glimpse of goal as an excuse to let fly.

In midfield, where the keenest battle took place, the pace was electrifying with creativity the keynote.

The best build-up of the game saw Brett Fawkes and David Jones combine to lay on a golden chance for Milosevic who volleyed wide in the 50th minute.

Twenty minutes later Milosevic hit the upright and, at the other end Soper headed against the crossbar.

Soper should have scored in the 83rd minute when he fired his header straight at Clint Gosling.

But two minutes later the Socceroo striker was given another chance and this time he made no mistake.

Schaefer, who recalled Olympic's 5-1 hammering of Newcastle last season, gave special mention to defender Mike Boogaard who did a splendid job on Soper as well as showing fine distributive skills.

"I was very happy with Peter Raskopoulos," said Schaefer. "You can see he is getting over the memory of his leg fracture and is approaching his best."

Said Gallagher: "It's a tragedy to play that well and not get a point, but due credit must go to both teams for turning on a cracker of a match."

Man of the match: From 20-odd worthy candidates the award goes to JOE SENKALSKI. On the ball and on song he is head and shoulders the best midfielder in Australia.

NEWCASTLE: Gosling, Maier, Boogaard, Owens, M. Jones, Kerby, Senkalski, D. Jones, Milosevic, Fawkes (Naumov 54), McClelland (Robertson 70).

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meler, Johnston, Jennings, Dakos, Lampropoulos, Phillips, Raskopoulos, Soper, Theodorakopoulos (Patalla 69), Katholos, Kalantzis (Svinos 90).

REFEREE: G. Power. CROWD: 2,215.

CANBERRA READY FOR PENRITH

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

CANBERRA CITY OLYMPIANS, who started the new season with a solid 3-0 win over neighbouring Inter Monaro, will be looking for their second consecutive scalp next Sunday against Penrith City at Jamison Oval to stay near the top of the NSL ladder.

Tommy English, Canberra's new 23-year-old former English First Division striker, scored a brilliant goal against Monaro and set up another with intelligent, unselfish play.

English, who played for Coventry City and Leicester City, looked cool under pressure despite not being acclimatised to Australian conditions, and lacking match fitness.

Sharp inside the box, English is a thinker with excellent vision.

Penrith will be no easy foe for Canberra as they stripped a point off Frank Arok's St George last week, holding them to a scoreless home draw.

Mickey Cross, Penrith's left-back skipper, had an outstanding match holding St George's winger Robbie Slater, whilst marshalling his defence of Brogan, McIntosh and Ainsworth superbly.

Against Canberra, Penrith's coach

Willie Wallace will have a selection problem as his two British players, striker Brian Jackson and right midfielder Ian Wotherspoon are back in Australia from their holidays in the UK.

Johnny Mihailidis, Canberra's midfielder, was surprisingly switched to right-back by coach Roy Thomson last week, joining Harkin, Burke and Jones in the back-four.

Thomson elected to play three midfielders in Tommy Sermanni, Terry Byrne and Steve Bryant to go forward with three strikers in Marko Perinovic, English and Ian Gibson.

Canberra's goals yesterday came from Perinovic, English and Sermanni.

Penrith's giant stopper David McIntosh will no doubt be assigned the task of blocking English around Penrith's goal area.

CANBERRA CITY OLYMPIANS v PENRITH CITY

JAMISON OVAL, JAMISON
THIS SUNDAY MARCH 17
YOUTH LEAGUE KICKS OFF 1 PM
MAIN GAME KICKS OFF 3 PM



JAMES HARDIE INDUSTRIES



JAMES HARDIE INDUSTRIES



□ TERRY BYRNE



□ ANTHONY FRANKEN



□ TOMMY SERMANNI



□ MARKO PERINOVIC



□ JOHNNY MIHAILIDIS



□ IAN GIBSON

THE GREAT FERENC PUSKAS WILL BE GUEST SPEAKER AT CANBERRA CITY OLYMPIANS VIP CLUB NEXT TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 19. For your tickets to see and hear this great Hungarian World Cup star, ring the Downer Olympic Club on (062) 480 708.

Canberra Supporters: Season tickets are now available at the Downer Olympic Soccer Club (062) 480 708.

CANBERRA'S NEXT HOME MATCH IS AGAINST MARCONI, MARCH 31

EDITORIAL

LEAGUE'S MEDIA BOOST

THE National Soccer League has always struggled to improve its public image.

In another attempt, the Olympic Airways NSL has contracted Phil Jarratt Communications as media consultants for 1985.

The Sydney-based firm is run by two experienced young journalists, Phil Jarratt and Neil Jameson.

Finally Australian soccer has placed its promotional activity in the hands of media men with particular experience in the sporting field.

And in Jameson the NSL has chosen someone who knows soccer inside-out, from his experience as a former Newcastle KB United director and currently as AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY's Newcastle correspondent.

In recent years the game has gone nowhere with the efforts of people who have come from a business marketing background or from other sports.

However admirable their efforts, much of their promotional work was misdirected and rarely aimed at improving the media coverage of soccer.

That is the job Jarratt and Jameson have been earmarked for in the ninth year of the National League.

Their emphasis will be on lifting the personality aspect of football, and in this way they will be aiming at a wide audience.

It is the "human factor" that makes a sport popular, because it cuts across all barriers.

Soccer also has its personality players, but they are rarely promoted outside the actual soccer media like ASW. To the average sports fan, the best-known Australian soccer player is Craig Johnston!

It is only through the players that we are eventually going to lift crowds at club matches.

As we see it, one of the tasks must be to educate club officials on the importance of media promotion.

ASW is aware of at least two clubs that virtually censured their coaches for making quite innocuous statements to the press last season.

This sort of mentality will only hinder Jarratt and Jameson's attempts to boost soccer's public image.

The two men are eagerly approaching their new task, but it will take time. They cannot be expected to perform overnight miracles.



CHIT CHAT

YOU always get the news first in ASW.

It was in our September 18 issue last year we predicted that Mark Pullen, the Apia Leichhardt centre-back and former NSW representative, might quit football to concentrate on body-building.

Pullen finally decided to retire at the end of February, even after appearing for Leichhardt in the pre-season Ampol Cup.

And we also forecast David Mitchell's imminent return from Glasgow Rangers on February 5 this year.



JOHN SPANOS' decision to quit Marconi is due to the demands of his position in Sydney City goalkeeper Todd Clarke's fashion business.

He is often involved in the office until 6.30 p.m. and later, and that is when Marconi commence training at Bossley Park.

His position is similar to that of full-back Vic Bozanic who played with Apia Leichhardt on loan last season and does not relish the trip from the Eastern Suburbs to the south-west of Sydney.



YUGOSLAVIAN striker Emil Dragicevic is training with St George but cannot be added to the first team squad until he gets a clearance from his homeland.

It's taking a long time. Dragicevic, who initially was linked with Sydney Croatia, has been in Australia for about eight months!



BRISBANE CITY coach Tony Lowndes is pleased with the efforts of the young players in his squad.

"The average age of the side is 24, and that includes two players who are over 30 in Billy Wilkinson and Bobby Hamilton," Lowndes said.

Long-serving City sweeper Wilkinson has returned to the club after playing for North Star in 1984.

BLACKTOWN CITY have rewarded one of their former players with a place on the coaching staff.

Peter Freeman has been appointed goalkeeper coach at the Gabbie, and he will also serve as back-up keeper to Barry Hoare.

Freeman had an impressive debut season with Blacktown in the then Phillips League in 1980. In fact many keen soccer followers rated him higher than current Marconi custodian Bruce James, who shared the No 1 shirt with Freeman at that time.

Last year Freeman went on loan to Penrith City, but injury cut short his return to National League football.



JOHN CONSTANTINE, president of the NSW Soccer Federation, took a look at Wentworth Park last week as a possible venue for big soccer in Sydney.

While there were problems, Constantine said the seating would be better than anything other grounds could offer.

"But the old problem of the greyhound track lights obscuring view is still there and also the seats are quite a long way from the actual playing pitch," said the NSW president.



DANNY HIMBRECHTS, a keen worker for junior soccer in the Campbelltown-Camden area in Sydney's south-west, is organising a shopping centre promotion for the May school holidays.

Himbrechts has approached past and present Soccerroo stars — from both the senior and Youth teams — to participate in the promotion at Macarthur Shopping Square, Campbelltown on Thursday night, May 23.

This is an ideal way of promoting soccer's senior stars to junior players, and many NSL clubs could take a leaf out of Danny's book.

Himbrechts asks for ASW readers who could provide posters for the big night to phone him on (046) 27 1005. (All material will be returned.)

THERE's quite a contingent of ex-Apia Leichhardt players at Marconi now.

Peter Tredinnick's transfer to the Bossley Park outfit reunites him with Paul Carter, the young full-back who transferred from Apia last year, and Peter Sharne, who spent half a season with Apia in 1983.

The traffic between the two Italian-supported clubs is not all one way though, as Berti Mariani has left Marconi for the security of a regular NSL spot with Apia.

Like Sharne, Mariani played on loan with Apia in 1983.



BRISBANE LIONS have signed former Canberra defender Tony Redmond.

He will now join his brother Phil at the club.

Lions had been negotiating with Canberra for Redmond for several weeks but matters stalemated when Lions bid of \$2,000 was well short of Canberra's asking price of \$5,000.

But following the departure of Doug Collins, the Canberra committee allowed the defender to go to Brisbane for \$2,500.



HECTOR MARTINEZ, the popular Argentine player, has been a little more than busy in recent weeks.

He is flat out at his engraving shop down at Birkenhead Point, training with NSW State League side Avala and also playing host to a special visitor from South America.

The special visitor is Hector's father, Sr Diolindo Martinez, who came to Australia for a short holiday.

Sr Diolindo Martinez flies back to Argentina on Wednesday, and we wish him "Buen Viaje!"



MARSHALL SOPER was allegedly offered a signing-on fee of \$14,000 to join Sydney Croatia this year.

That suggests Croatia are going flat out for a big season, with expense no object.

Soper, however, ended his dispute with Sydney Olympic and decided to re-sign for 1985.



□ BERTI MARIANI pictured during his spell with Apia Leichhardt in 1983.

SYDNEY CROATIA president Tony Basic was not too disappointed at his team's surprise loss to Wollongong in the NSL Cup.

"The team had a very good second half after being down 3-0 at half-time," said Basic.

"That proved, at least, that the players can fight back. They could have scored five goals in the second half."

Croatia's biggest worry remains the clearance for non-playing coach Vedran Rozic.

"Delays in getting the clearance could only happen in Yugoslavia," said the Croatia president, who believes Rozic is being used as a political football.

IN years gone by, South American players have proved to be smash hits with Australian soccer fans — Della Picca and Rodriguez with St George, Gnani with Pan Hellenic and Campana with Apia to name a few.

Hector Martinez informs us that right now there are many first division Argentinian players who wish to come to Australia and play.

Interested clubs should contact Hector on (02) 819 7572.



WEST ADELAIDE coach Neil McGachey is keeping two new signings under wraps — but whether it is by accident or design only he knows.

Big defender Les Matiscaak, signed from State League club Campbelltown, has played for only 23 minutes in the Ampol Cup as a substitute, and hasn't even been on the bench since.

Mike Genikas, a midfielder from Birka, hasn't been sighted in the summer series.

JOHNNY STEVENSON, former Sydney City and South Melbourne midfielder, is back in Sydney and looking for a club.

Stevenson was sold by Sydney City to South Melbourne for \$17,500 five seasons ago.

Interested clubs who would like to enlist John's services for the current season may contact him on (02) 599 4870.



ADELAIDE'S two NSL clubs' scouts have been put on the scent of a Kiwi striker.

Word is he has signed for lowly Brighton City, now coached by former SA star Billy Birch, who was once West's boss.



BRISBANE LIONS striker Calvin Daunt will get the plaster off his broken foot this week and hopes to be back in line for selection within a month.

Daunt's aerial dominance and on-the-ball busting has been sadly missed in the Lions attack.

TOMMY ENGLISH arrived in Australia this week from England to join Canberra City.

Prior to his departure, English received the following mention in the March 2 issue of popular British football magazine "SHOOT":

It wasn't long ago that TOMMY ENGLISH was keeping MARK HATELEY out of the Coventry first team ... but now they are worlds apart.

While Hateley is idolised in Italy by AC Milan fans and is an England hero, English (right) is now playing for expenses only in the Eastern Counties League for Colchester reserves.

Says 23-year-old Tommy: "I'm a free agent and it wouldn't cost any club a penny to take me on."

"Believe it or not, it's harder to play in the Eastern Counties League than it is in the First Division. There's no time to play football and defenders rush into you straight away."

All the NSL action — Southern Division

CITY PAID PENALTY

DENYS STOPS SOUTH STARS

Brisbane City0 Brisbane Lions2

THREE missed penalties, believed to be a National League record for one match, cast an unconvincing shadow over Brisbane Lions' 2-0 win against Brisbane City in the Queensland derby at Spencer Park.

Brisbane City missed two spot-kicks and Lions one in a controversial first round encounter.

Lions eventually triumphed thanks to a 75th minute goal from Joe Cairney and a second four minutes later from Clark Anderson, but the missed penalties were the major topic of conversation after the match.

Brisbane City, who had surprised Lions with a spirited start, were awarded the first penalty by referee Bill Monteverde when Lions sweeper Roddy Vasquez tackled Peter Carey from behind.

It was probably the most dubious of the three penalty decisions as Vasquez actually got some foot to the ball.

Luciano Fabrizio, who had excelled at penalty kick training mid-week, was selected to take the kick.

His shot was one of the worst penalty misses seen at Spencer Park in years, swinging more than five metres wide.

Three minutes after the break it was Lions' turn when Mike Milovanovic brought down Jim McDonagh.

Usual penalty-taker Alan Niven hit his attempt far

BY GREG RUSSELL

too softly and far too predictably for City keeper Kim Wishart, who pounced on the ball to his left.

Eleven minutes later it was Carey and Vasquez who clashed again with the Lions sweeper taking more of the play than the ball on this occasion.

City switched the kicking responsibility to Billy Wilkinson, but he chose to pat rather than drive his shot and Lions keeper Wayne Evans dived successfully to his right.

It was one of many brilliant saves by Evans in his best game for the club.

Lions full-back Steve Jackson, surely a Soccerroo candidate, turned in another fine performance and stood out above the very mediocre showing of most other outfield players on both sides.

Cairney's goal, a chip over Wishart after a mistake by Fabrizio, was professional finishing at its best while City supporters were claiming offside on Lions second goal which Anderson finished off after a breakaway by McDonagh.

Man of the match: WAYNE EVANS for three match-winning saves including a penalty.

BRISBANE CITY: Wishart, Fabrizio, Milovanovic, Wilkinson, Bromfield, Junna (Robinson 76), Mengotti, Hamilton, Glockner, Reis, Carey (Schiavo 86).

BRISBANE LIONS: Evans, Jackson, Hunter, Vasquez, Niven, R. Stewart, J. Stewart, Ogden, Anderson, Cairney, McDonagh.

REFEREE: B. Monteverde.

CROWD: 1,885.

South Melbourne...3

Green Gully.....2

GREEN GULLY goalkeeper Lou Denys emerged the hero of a nail-biting clash at Middle Park which saw South Melbourne breaking Green Gully's unbeaten record of this year with a narrow 3-2 win.

BY CON NIKOLOPOULOS

In a game of fluctuating fortunes, South Melbourne had to gain the lead twice before finally winning the game five minutes before full-time with a penalty kick.

The home team mounted an onslaught from the beginning and within the first five minutes trounced their opponents with a barrage of attacks that brought out the best of Denys.

Top goalscorer Doug Brown cracked the first shot at goal 70 seconds into the game but Denys went airborne to parry the shot for corner.

Egan repeated the action in the 15th minute but Denys excelled once again in deflecting Egan's blistering effort.

The breakthrough came in the 18th minute when Charlie Egan received a through-ball and turned it into the net from the far post.

Paul Lewis was unlucky not to have equalised in the 30th minute when he rattled the crossbar with a powerful shot from within the area.

But the speedy winger was rewarded seven minutes later when he beat Peter Laumets with a ground shot to level the score.

Green Gully became more enterprising in the second half as South Melbourne kept frittering away their scoring opportunities.

Paul Lewis, who was rejected by South Melbourne last year, netted his second goal after 16 minutes with a precision header from a Vassallo corner.

South Melbourne clawed their way back into the game in the 64th minute when Egan

scored his 45th National League goal, turning in a through-ball by Halford.

Gully's bravado evaporated in the 84th minute when Brown netted the winning goal from the penalty spot.

Brown took a corner from the right and Kenny Murphy connected to flit the ball back to lurking Egan, whose header was handled by Kragiacic on the goal-line and referee Jim Fearn pointed to the penalty spot. Brown took the resultant penalty.

Man of the match: Green Gully's LOU DENYS who kept his team in the game until the 85th minute with a faultless exhibition of goalkeeping.

SOUTH MELBOURNE: Laumets, Russell, Postecoglou, Blair, Yzendoorn, Halford, McDowell, Crino, Egan, Brown, Murphy.

GREEN GULLY: Denys, Vassallo, McClelland, Kragiacic, Murray, Smart, Lewis, Lucchesi, Lloyd, Smallman, Williams.

REFEREE: J. Fearn.

CROWD: 2,000.



CHARLIE EGAN

West Adelaide.....2 B'wick Juventus....1

WEST ADELAIDE survived a final 15 minute revival by Brunswick Juventus to kick off the NSL season with a 2-1 win at Hindmarsh Stadium.

The home side had the disadvantage of having played in a torrid Ampol Cup semi-final on Friday night to make the final, and both teams on Sunday had to play with temperature at 34 degrees and the humidity crippling when breathing.

The half-time score line was 0-0, with FIFA referee Donald Campbell dominating with his yellow card being shown to West's John Panagis and Richard Miranda

(Juventus) after a clash, then West's Chris Manou who had earlier been involved with Miranda.

Three minutes into the second half West struck.

A corner came from the left and captain and sweeper Graham Honeyman, playing his 200th game in the NSL, met the ball with his head then collected a rebound from Juventus defender on his foot to bury the ball from close range.

GEORGIE, BERGERS SHARE THE POINTS

George Cross0 Heidelberg0

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS held Heidelberg United to a 0-0 draw at Chaplin Reserve.

In a game of two contrasting halves Heidelberg and George Cross shared the opportunities to score, but both failed to find the net after 90 minutes.

Heidelberg had the better of the early exchanges but poor finishing prevented them from taking the lead.

Mike Valentine and Stuart Stevenson missed some brilliant opportunities to net in the first quarter of the game, while the captain of the Heidelberg team, Theo Selemidis, also failed to beat George Cross' experienced goalkeeper Lou Kastner.

George Cross reversed the tide in the dying minutes of first half and engineered some moves which could have resulted in them taking the lead had Ossie Latif been careful in his final delivery of the ball.

As Heidelberg ran out of steam in the second half, due to the high temperatures, George Cross gradually dominated the game and kept on breaking away but they failed to capitalise on their scoring opportunities.

Man of the match: George Cross goalkeeper LOU KASTNER. The veteran keeper asserted his brilliance throughout the game to prevent Heidelberg from scoring.

GEORGE CROSS: Kastner, Sceri, Campbell, Bennett, Richardson, Faulkner, Istuk (Bain 77), Mitten, Glider, McLaren, Latif.

HEIDELBERG: Oliver, McKie, Marley, Angele, Metaxas (Patterson 77), Valentine, Selemidis, Tasios, Winn, Yankos, Stevenson.

REFEREE: S. Zoumas.

CROWD: 2,500.

WESTAD HOLD ON IN HEAT

BY TOM MCKAIN

Ten minutes later home forward Gary Price got the second goal from close in when he accepted a relay from Alan Scott and George Konstandopoulos to poke the ball home.

West then tried to coast and were doing it successfully until the 78th minute when Joe Sweeney collected a ball from substitute Paul Wade to launch the fightback.

In the final stages Sweeney, John Dowie, Robert Cumming, and Wade all had chances but when they were off target Alistair Crook, in goal for the injured former Soccerroo Martin Crook, kept them out.

Referee Campbell was also busy in the second period, booking Paul Drinosky and Eddie Campbell of Juventus and West's Crook and issuing warnings to several players as both

teams became frustrated and tired in the heat.

Man of the match: West captain GRAHAM HONEYMAN for holding the defence together, coming away with the ball to initiate attacks, and scoring the goal which broke the deadlock.

WEST ADELAIDE: A. Crook, Hiern, Brown, Honeyman, McGregor, Atsiles, Panagis, Manou, Price, Konstandopoulos (Stefanopoulos 59), Scott (Stamatopoulos 69).

BRUNSWICK JUVEN- TUS: Banovic, Geremia, Lewis, Brown, Drimosky, Campbell, Cumming, Miranda (Wade 26), Sweeney, Dowie, Zinni (Palatides 73).

REFEREE: D. Campbell.

CROWD: 2,586.



GRAHAM HONEYMAN

CROATIA GO ON THE RAMPAGE

Melb Croatia.....3 Adelaide City0

MELBOURNE CROATIA easily accounted for Adelaide City, with a convincing 3-0 win at Olympic Park.

After a silent first half, Melbourne Croatia went on a rampage and went into the lead in the 53rd minute when Deankovic shot home after a rebound from Shaun Parton's header off the crossbar.

Greg House tucked the ball in the net in the 60th minute to give Melbourne Croatia a 2-0 lead and the first glimpse of the win.

Jozo Antolovic put the result beyond doubt in the 75th minute, hammering in after a backheader by Parton.

Man of the match: Croatia defender GEORGE HANNAH.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Govic, Jurcic, Parton, Cristaldo, Hannah, Antolovic, Deankovic, House, Cumming, Campbell (Trojlic 79), Ward.

ADELAIDE CITY: McNally, Donnelly, Santrac (Cecere 60), Nyskohus, Flounders, Melta, Northcote, Villani, Mullen (Vidmar 84), Maxwell, Costanzo.

REFEREE: S. Mellings.

CROWD: 1,500.

COLE HITS WINNER FOR PRESTON

Footscray.....1 Preston2

BUFFALO Gold Cup finalist Preston earned their first two championship points with an narrow but well-deserved 2-1 win over a youthful Footscray team at Schintler Reserve.

Although Preston went into the game favourites, Footscray staged a brilliant fight to keep them at bay until the 49th minute when former Soccerroo Gary Cole netted the winning goal.

Preston went into the lead after 14 minutes through Warren Spink.

Their euphoria, however, was very short-lived because Footscray managed to draw level within 60 seconds with a goal by Spojilovic.

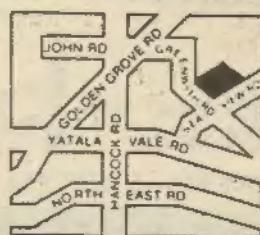
The game developed into a see-saw affair from there onwards with both sides pushing forward desperately looking for the winning goal.

Preston scored the winning goal four minutes into the second half when Cole netted with a header.

Man of the match: Preston central defender IAN DOBSON, who lead his team-mates throughout the game.

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'SOCCER MUST BE STIMULATING'

FOOTBALL is a universal language and understood throughout the world wherever a ball is kicked.

The coaches are our "football interpreters" on the international scene and no matter what their spoken tongue — be it English, Hungarian, Arabic, Spanish or whatever they can all communicate through the "language of football".

However, it now seems that in some places some of the coaches have developed a "stutter" and are becoming a bit difficult to understand.

One of the last places this would be expected to happen would be West Germany — the home of the Cologne Coaching Academy, widely regarded as the finest in the world.

The coaching set up in West Germany has been questioned by the famous "KICKER" magazine.

So much so that it has warranted an editorial in "FIFA NEWS" by my old friend Sepp Blatter, the general secretary.

The editorial ran as follows:-

"Does the Bundesliga conduct its training properly? was the question recently asked by the leading West German football magazine KICKER, which in a series of articles spread over several weeks investigated the training activities of this league, still considered to be one of the world's strongest.

Some disappointed results of the national side and unsatisfactory trends pervading the activities of the Bundesliga have given rise to serious doubts as to the effectiveness of their traditional methods, despite the Association's first-class development programme for their coaches.

But it is not only the German FR where such doubts exist.

Football circles on all continents are showing concern about the attractiveness of the game.

This apprehension is underlined by the ever-increased struggle to attract spectators, who apart from being confronted with a steadily-multiplying choice of sports events, also having a

marked tendency to invest their money only in really top events, preferring to select the major proportion of their football viewing on television.

A diagnosis of today's football can in most cases be made rapidly, and for most part the experts would come to the same conclusions; the technical side of football has to be improved, more goals must be scored, attractive play must be the main objective.

Spectators are not interested in purely defensive battles or tactical skirmishes.

What they want is stimulating, attacking football.

Recently the only exponents of this style of football have been the Brazilians with their subtle ball artistry, which not only has brought them successful results but has won them boundless admiration of football enthusiasts throughout the world.

Brazil's football is so captivating that even the presence of individual players (Zico, Socrates, etc.) in foreign line-ups has suffered to fill the stadia.

The magazine KICKER demands coaches in capital letters to "give the children footballs to play with again."

This advice is neither new nor profound but it certainly reaches the core of the matter and today it should not only be a mere utterance but must be put into practice.

The fact is that in many of our associations' top divisions, there are players who, despite their top athletic form, do not adequately master the rudiments of the game — the elementary technique of foot and ball-play.

The contemporary style, accepted for a few years as "combative football" is no longer up-to-date since pure athletic force has obliterated the finer technical skills from the game.

Not even technically-skilled players such as Franz Beckenbauer and nowadays Michel Platini — both playing in the "Brazilian style" — were able to halt this development.

What is supposed to be meant by giving the children footballs again?

Youth coaches should realise that endurance training at most junior levels has questionable significance.

They should make it their duty to ensure that no exercises are carried out without the ball, they should promote individualism and not scold spontaneous dribbling.

The courage to shoot at goal should be praised.

The satisfaction of a successful individual attempt must outweigh the fear of the coach's criticism.

The young footballer must be allowed to become aware that the good technician in his team should be able to take on more responsibility than the mere runner.

A youth who doesn't learn this right from the outset will never become a play-maker.

These comments should not, however, imply that the athletic side of training should be completely neglected.

What is important is that athletic training should be regarded as an end product of ball-play.

Moreover, intensified and harder training should not always be regarded by coaches as their highest objective: the correct dosage at the right time along with the knowledge of the possibility to be able to give a team back its joy in the game are all just as important.

START WITH THE KIDS

If intensified training, for example after a defeat, is used as an alibi for those responsible, then the coach displays a lack of courage.

Physical fitness is good but technique is better.

This applies just as much to the young players as it does to the celebrated professionals."

So now you know what some people think in Europe.

I certainly agree that skill and technique are vitally important in every player's make up and that youngsters should be given a thorough grounding of the A, B, C of the game before being expected to play the X, Y, Z.

However, by the same token, I just hope and pray that national coach Frank Arok does not adopt the "Brazilian style" for the coming World Cup play offs.

The basic fact of the matter is that only Brazilians can play the "Brazilian style" and cheap copies always bring failure, in the same way as the Brazilians failed miserably in the 1974 series to successfully adopt the "European style".

What we have to bring the best out of our players is the "Australian style" — a comment which no doubt will have the many experts from overseas, now residing in this great country of ours, scurrying for pen and paper.



OLYMPIC AIRWAYS NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE



THIS WEEK'S MATCHES

NORTHERN DIVISION

**WOLLONGONG CITY v
SYDNEY CROATIA**

Sunday 3.30pm
Wollongong Showground

**MARCONI v
NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD UTD**

Sunday 3pm
Marconi Stadium

**ST GEORGE v
SYDNEY OLYMPIC**

Sunday 4pm
St George Stadium

**CANBERRA CITY v
PENRITH CITY**

Sunday 3pm
Jamison Oval

**BLACKTOWN CITY v
INTER MONARO**

Sunday 3pm
Gabbie Stadium

**LEICHHARDT v
SYDNEY CITY**

Sunday 3pm
Gabbie Stadium

WATSON'S UNLUCKY 1984 'TRIFECTA'



SYDNEY CROATIA goalkeeper Steve Watson would rather forget last season.

The tall, lanky 29-year-old finished the season in the Youth League team after being first-choice for the previous six years.

"Everything, that I hoped wouldn't happen to me last year," he said.

"I was injured in the pre-season St George Challenge Cup, sent off for the first time in an NSL match in Brisbane and then dropped from the team and replaced by Greg Woodhouse.

"That's certainly

one trifecta I don't want to collect this year!"

Watson felt like leaving the club after he was dropped by coach Harry Noon but decided against this after conferring with the club's committee.

"Sure, I went through a bad spell early in the season but I felt I was starting to come good," the former Granville player said.

"I couldn't believe it when Noon dropped me because the week before we beat Wollongong 2-0.

"I asked the com-

mittee whether it would probably be better for me to finish then and start fresh this year but they wanted me to stay with the club for the rest of the season."

Watson is confident that he can make a successful comeback to first team football this year.

"I've got a few good years left in me yet," he said.

"I've been training hard this year and I've given Croatia too many years of good service to give up.

"I'm glad Tony Basic is back in control this year. He wanted me back at the start of the season.

"He offered me a good contract and said the club needed two experienced goalkeepers."

Former World Cup goalie Greg Woodhouse has started the competition in the first XI but Watson says he will fight him all the way.

"It's funny when you think about it. Woody and myself are good mates," he said.

"We're always together but I'm waiting for him to make a mistake.

"I'm as keen as mustard and I haven't had a chance to prove myself yet."

Watson rose to prominence when he joined Croatia in 1978.

Playing in the State League competition, the club swept all opposition aside in a reign which culmi-

Now Steve must fight for spot with Woodhouse

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

nated in National League selection.

In 1978 and '79 Croatia won the competition but were beaten in both Grand Finals. The following season was a disaster with the club finishing well out of the running.

In 1981 Croatia won the League but lost to St George in the Grand Final. They finally overcame their Grand Final hoodoo in 1982, beating Sutherland to take out the State League double.

The 1983 season proved to be a fruitful year for Watson and Croatia.

"It was a little disappointing losing the competition to Melita on goal difference, but we got our revenge when we beat them in a Grand Final replay," he said.

"That year I was selected in the Australian team to play in the Merion Cup in Singapore but had to pull out because of a back injury.

"I suppose I was Australia's number two goalie at the time."

Surprisingly, Watson has no real ambition of making a return to the representative scene after being a frontline contender early last year.

"I always seem to pull out of representative teams because of injuries or work commitments.

"I'm happy to play at club level now. I don't think I can ever get there again."

But if Watson's comeback this year doesn't result in first team selection he could be forever lost to the NSL.

"If I don't get back into the first grade team it could mean the end for me in the NSL," Watson said.

"It's more of a prestige thing with me. No-one likes being dropped to the Youth team."

"I don't think too many players at my age would train three or four nights a week just to play in the Youth League."

□ STEVE WATSON in action, with defender Lee Sterrey covering.



□ GREG WOODHOUSE, currently first-choice goalkeeper at Croatia.

McMILLAN DECIDES ON NSL

GRAHAM McMILLAN, former South Australian Youth Soccerroo who quit the Australian Institute of Sport last year to return to Scotland, is looking for an Australian club.

A striker, he has been playing for Motherwell reserves in the First Division, and has been offered a contract.

However, he reckons he would be better off financially living with his parents and playing for an Adelaide NSL club.

The 19-year-old has also played for Hibernian, who got him through Glasgow Rangers, but they refused to pay his travel expenses from Motherwell.

McMillan also trained with Rangers but could not earn a permanent place with any of their teams.

"I feel that if you are to succeed here you must be with a Premier League club or go down to England and try to make the big-time there, otherwise you are just as well off in Australia," he said in a letter home.

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THE JOHNNY WARREN PAGE

LOU HRISTODOULOU

□ RIGHT: ATTI ABONYI shows his scoring prowess for Australia. Hristodoulou has shown his potential as a top goalscorer in the World Youth Championship.

Finishing skills reminiscent of Abonyi

BEFORE the recent World Youth Championship elimination series in Sydney, Young Socceroo coach Jimmy Shoulder told me that Lou Hristodoulou, the 17-year-old baby of the team (and eligible for the 1987 Young Socceroo team) is "potentially a top-class player in any position — a player who has got it all."



□ HRISTODOULOU

Following Hristodoulou's performances in those elimination matches, few would doubt Shoulder's high opinion.

Four goals, some splendid skills and a temperament beyond his years clearly establish young Hristodoulou as a player of immense potential.

Perhaps the most impressive feature of his attacking performances was his coolness in front of goal.

Not for him the net-

breaking shot when scoring opportunities arose but rather the delicate Central European placement when under considerable pressure.

In this aspect of his game Hristodoulou reminded me so much of former St George and Socceroo star Atti Abonyi.

According to Hristodoulou, though, it is his lack of finishing which he must improve.

"I had enough

chances to be the leading scorer in the series," he said.

"Sure I hit the woodwork twice but I really need to work on my finishing."

Although he played midfield and up-front for the Australian Institute of Sport, he prefers the striking role —

"there's less running and more chances to score," he says of this unusual preference among young players.

Lou started out as a seven-year-old with Salisbury United in South Australia.

He played for West Adelaide at Under 14 level and won rep honours at Under 14 and Under 16 for SA, before being spotted by Shoulder and invited to join the Institute.

His splendid close skills, particularly in turning defenders is "something I've always had," says the science student at Canberra's College of Advanced Education.

Apart from football, Lou sees a degree in science creating career options in many fields — "most probably in teaching."

Football-wise, he would eventually like to make it in the Greek first division.

But for the moment it's one week at a time



— a trip to Europe with the AIS, to Mexico and then the Soviet Union with the Young Socceroos.

"We can do quite well in Russia with a favourable draw."

It is easy to predict that Hristodoulou will do quite well in both his academic and footballing careers.

His name Hristodoulou literally translated means servant of Christ.

One hopes the likeable 17-year-old baby of the Young Socceroos will also serve Australian soccer to his undoubted potential.

**SOCCER
ON
SBS-TV**

CONTINUING its involvement in local soccer, SBS-TV has unveiled its plans for an extensive television coverage of Australian soccer in 1985 — a schedule which includes the Olympic Airways National Soccer League, and the Socceroos' World Cup qualifying fixtures.

With SBS-TV expanding its transmission areas to Brisbane, Adelaide, Newcastle and Wollongong in mid-1985, the network plans to make its soccer coverage this year wider, more accessible and vibrant than ever before.

From today (Monday) at 6 pm, SBS-TV presents "Olympic Airways Soccer League" — a weekly one-hour round-up of the new-look National Soccer League.

Highlights from all major NSL fixtures will be presented as well to provide a punchy, topical look at the League.

During May, viewers will see the network's exclusive satellite telecasts of Europe's three big domestic club finals — the European Cup, Cup Winners Cup and UEFA Cup.

In July/August, SBS-TV will again telecast matches from the special International Soccer Series.

Later in the year, Australia's Socceroos take on their biggest challenge, when they attempt to qualify for the 1986 World Cup Finals in Mexico.

"World Soccer" will continue each Saturday at 6 pm, with Les Murray presenting a look at the international game.

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Prospects emerge for Youth squad

AS the standard of opposition for the Young Socceroos at the World Youth Championship Finals in Moscow will be far ahead of the preliminary series in Sydney, coach Jim Shoulder has another job in front of him.

Jim has his players under continual review, but more than that will be required on this occasion.

A few positions must be improved if Australia is to do at least as well as the teams who appeared in the Final series in Australia and Mexico in 1981 and '83.

Here are some of the players whom affable Jim could do well to review.

- Bring **PETER PETKOVSKI** through to the front-line so that his power can be fully utilised. Shoulder, incidentally, is ready to restore **WARREN SPINK** to the fold.

- On present form, **BRETT THORNTHWAITE** (Blacktown Ci-

ty) is a must to give midfield cover and balance. This lad has pace, the ability to run all day, he can pass superbly and can produce a devastating long-distance shot.

- **PEDRO RICOY** (St George) too has first class midfield skills that must be thoroughly re-examined.

- **ALEX LAMPROPOULOS** (Sydney Olympic) should be given the chance to fight for a central defence position along with John Gregson and Andrew Bernal.

- On the left side **ANDY KOCZKA** (St George), **MARTIN BOURKE** (Blacktown) and **DAVID HALE** (Penrith) need reviewing. Koczka has strength and height for left-back. Bourke and Hale, who both play left midfield or full-back, are resolute players, not overskilled yet extremely difficult to pass.

Shoulder still has to come up with an answer to the right wing conundrum.

Sean Ingham could improve in the interim but either a specialist winger or a versatile player with wing skills is needed as well.



LEFT TWO Youth squad contenders in goal - Alex Lampropoulos and Andy Koczka.

Australian Soccer



6pm Monday

SBS

CARRIZO LEADS WAY FOR URUGUAY

RAUL CARRIZO has taken charge of Uruguay Auburn this year, and, now with their house seemingly in order, can the likeable Argentinian mould a winning side?

"It will be very hard," he confesses. "But I just have to mould a successful team, our followers deserve it."

"Everyone is so very helpful. In this area there are quite a few South Americans. Football is our 'cup of tea'. We are aiming for a big year."

"With a team in the First Division, everyone is enthusiastic. In fact, money has been raised and a property was bought near Bossley Park for a social club, so as you can see everyone is keen."

Raul's influence with last year's Sydney Croatia youth side is borne out as he tells of acquisitions to the squad.

"I have three players from Croatia. They were playing very well during Croatia's State League days. For one reason or another they were unable to break through."

"Johnny Pagano (Bobby's brother), a defender, 21-year-old Robert Kristovic, a winger, and another young libero make the three."

With the side lacking a little in experience,

BY FRANK COLETTA

Raul was quick to point out that he would play if needed.

"The club can have my services at any time, but I want to give the first-choice players a go first-up," he said.

"There is some good young talent but very young. I will attempt to blood them slowly."

"At the moment the fundamentals are lacking and silly mistakes are being made. We are playing with spirit. We have the skill but are not utilising it. That's something we have to overcome."



□ RAUL CARRIZO

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RELIABLE SHARKS AIM FOR SEMIS

BY FRANK COLETTA

EVER-RELIABLE Sutherland Shire will be represented in the semi-finals once again this year, according to club president Peter Gray.

"We'll always make the semis of the State League but going on to win the premiership is another matter," he said.

"Last season we had no luck and given some this time we could win it."

"But whose to say if we do win that we will enter the National League. We have no great aspirations towards entering the NSL."

Johnny Lavin is entering his second year as coach, while there have been few changes to the playing staff.

"We haven't signed anyone because we have no money," Gray said. "We don't buy players, we make them!"

"Craig Hall is training with us but has not yet signed, and apart from Jimmy Webber still to return from England, we have the same players as last season."

Enforcing his claim that Sutherland successfully breed youngsters into top-liners, Gray says: "A young kid called Tasker and another named Nelson are surprising everyone at the club. Tasker, especially, if given an injury-free year could really show his quality."

To claims aimed at several clubs that they are harbouring too many veterans, Gray retorts: "They say we are the Sutherland 'old brigade' but this is ridiculous. Our eldest player is 30-years-old, then it goes down to 'Hally' (Craig Hall) who is 25."

"Rockdale seem to be one club relying on the older players and they may not be as strong as usual. As for the others, if everything goes accord-

ing to plan, Melita, Manly and Canterbury should press for honours."

But the club president is quick to point out that the best of Sutherland is yet to be seen and in a few weeks they should show their real colours.

"We've started slowly but we haven't been anywhere near our peak as yet. As for back-up, we have a crack third grade side and in the seconds we've only lost players who failed to make the grade."

"Shane Clinch was loaned out to Croatia last year, yet this term we don't know if he is going or staying. If we were able to keep him it would be great because we are in need of a goalscorer."

"John Stoddart was on loan from Blacktown but is no longer with us. He has been loaned to Port Hacking."

With most clubs struggling financially, Gray says Sutherland are out of any troubles they were in last year.

"Everything is

looking great, there are no financial worries. The players are not over-exerting themselves in the pre-season series and are looking to Ap-

ril for the State League kick-off. The ground has never looked better and after this trialling period we will be turning it on."



□ SHANE CLINCH

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□ DANNY WRIGHT

STAR TOLD TO HURT ANKLE

FORMER Young Socceroo Danny Wright is using a new therapy to overcome an ankle injury which has kept him on the sidelines for nearly 12 months.

The treatment involves applying an icepack to his ankle before training as a temporary anaesthetic against the pain he still feels when he kicks the ball.

But specialists have told the talented striker that he must hurt the ankle for it to improve.

According to the doctors considerable scar tissue has built up since Wright injured the ankle at Perry Park early last year. He has been able to run for the past four months but not kick.

But the experts say that once he breaks up the scar tissue it could be only a matter of weeks before he resumes playing again. In the meantime the ice will help deaden the pain.

The injury, Wright's first major setback in his impressive career, has been a costly one. He was named in the Socceroo 'A' squad for last year's World Soccer Series but was forced to withdraw.

Wright also has had his Soccer curtailed this season because of heavy apprenticeship study commitments, but the block course is now completed and he is looking to a speedy return to the Lions team.

"I hope everything goes well for Danny because we certainly could do with him in our squad," Lions coach Gordon Arrowsmith said.



STATE CAPTAIN'S SUSPENSION IS BLOW TO QSF

BY GREG RUSSELL

THE Queensland Soccer Federation Management Committee could be put into the embarrassing position of having to ratify a suspension on its State captain, Frank Pimblett.

The suspension has been imposed by Pimblett's club Brisbane City over his non-appearance at training this season.

City have outed Pimblett for the first two National League games and a week for each additional week he stays away.

So far, on those terms, Pimblett must miss the first six weeks of the season.

As the suspension is longer than two weeks, the Management Committee is constitutionally bound to ratify the penalty.

But the committee is treading warily at this stage. It has called for explanatory letters from the club and the player before taking any action.

It is understood the

Federation is not keen to become involved in club matters.

By the same token, it goes without saying that Queensland coach Bruce Stowell would love the matter to be resolved and Pimblett to resume playing, therefore making him available for the coming state team commitments.

But latest reports are that Pimblett intends sitting out the season. He was known to be ready to return to Spencer Park when the suspension was announced in a morning newspaper.

It was that which prompted his present stand.

"We will be acting in accordance with the constitution but



□ BRISBANE CITY midfielder, Bobby Hamilton

the committee would like to hear both stories before making any kind of decision on the Pimblett

case," QSF secretary Alan Vessey said.

While Pimblett stays away, City coach Tony Lowndes is using young talent to plug the holes in the Gladiators midfield. In recent weeks he has used experienced Bobby Hamilton with young terriers Frank Mengotti and Andy Chapman.

Mengotti played regularly in the City side last year, in positions from the forward-line to defence. The former Valley Trident junior was the toast of Brisbane City last week when he scored the winning goal in City's shock 1-0 NSL cup win over Marconi.

Chapman, a medical student, was selected in the very first 1983 Young Socceroos squad but lost his place after breaking a leg, an injury from which he has now fully recovered.

BENNETT ASSISTS YOUTH

FORMER Socceroo and Lions stopper Col Bennett has been appointed assistant Queensland Youth coach.

Bennett will assist Bruce Stowell in the preparation of the Queensland Under 16 and Under 18 sides this season.

Bennett, one of the most qualified coaches in Queensland, has been in charge of Intermediate League side Rochdale for the past two years.

Coach warns: 'This is not a holiday'

QUEENSLAND coach Bruce Stowell has warned potential state team players that the Maroons trip to Fiji this May "will be no holiday."

Stowell sounded the warning as the Queensland Soccer Federation sought the availability to tour of all Queensland National and Premier League players. So far no player has indicated he definitely cannot tour.

Stowell will pick his squad for the 10-day three-game tour after the annual interstate clash between Queensland and New South Wales at Perry Park on April 25.

"Any player who thinks this is going to be 10 days of fun in the sun quite simply won't go. I will be making that quite clear from the start," Stowell said.

"We have an obligation to Queensland soccer to play our best and the clubs in Brisbane won't want their players returning mid-season out of condition."

The tour, which begins on May 28 and coincides with the first NSL mid-season break, will be the first overseas trip by a full Queensland soccer team.

Although match details are yet to be finalised, it looks hopeful that one of the Maroons' three matches will be against the Fiji national team.

In other QSF news Queensland officials has scored a major victory over the National League in relation to the annual interstate clash with NSW.

Queensland's clash with the Blues is at Perry Park on Anzac day — the same day the league

has scheduled its NSL Cup knock-out final.

But the QSF, after extensive negotiations by secretary Alan Vessey, has assurances from the NSL that the Cup Final will be postponed if either a Queensland NSL side is in the Cup final or two NSW sides are involved.

The QSF has long battled to have its annual interstate clash recognised Australia-wide as a major fixture. And the NSL's latest decision indicates the battle has finally been won.

But another battle is looming this month over a clash between the QSF's XXXX pre-season tournament dates and the NSL Cup second and third rounds.

The clash evolved after the QSF put back one week its XXXX dates after the tournament was delayed two weeks because of the Queensland power strike. The QSF has appealed to the NSL that it can't change the dates again or the competition, which attracts \$6,000 sponsorship from Castlemaine Perkins, and will lose its credibility.

The QSF wants the cup dates, and the second round is a match involving Brisbane City and Lions, to be played on Friday, March 22, but that will mean three matches in five days for City and Lions, if they qualify for the XXXX semi-finals as expected, and neither club is happy about that.

Lukewarm response to rule changes

THE introduction of new rules in the Queensland Soccer Federation's XXXX pre-season tournament has met with mixed response.

QSF president Ian Brusasco has hailed the rule changes as a promotional success, while coaches and players have generally bagged the modification.

On Brusasco's instigation, and after discussion with referees and coaches, the XXXX competition rules include restricted offside and the partial outlawing of back passes to the goalkeeper.

"I thought the changes were great, the ball definitely was in play more and a referee told me that it made the game feel 15 minutes longer," Brusasco said.

"And it certainly was pleasing to see the co-operation of clubs and coaches in getting into the spirit of the experiment. No-one tried any systems to stifle the experiment."

Such was Brusasco's enthusiasm over the success of the rules changes he intends sending a report on the tournament to the Australian Soccer Federation, and Brusasco wants the ASF to pass the details onto FIFA.

But Brusasco's enthusiasm is not shared by some of the coaches whose teams have played in XXXX.

East's coach John Sime said his side's opening match was "a lottery".

"It made a mockery of things, defenders were terrified to do anything, there was not skill factor," he said.

And the Lions players and their coach Gordon Arrowsmith labelled the 25 metre offside line as "a bit of a joke".

One of the few coaches who saw any benefit from the rules changes was Taringa's Iain Keeson.

"It certainly has shown up a few defenders," he said. "It's sorting out the men from the boys at the back but by the same token it is turning things into a long-ball game and making a lot of running for midfielders," he said.

The XXXX tournament continues this week: Wednesday, March 13: Olympic v Easts (6.30pm), Brisbane City v Acacia Ridge (8.30pm); Friday, March 15: Mount Gravatt v Grange Thistle (6.30pm), Ipswich United v Valley Trident (8.30pm).



JUNIOR SCENE

Compiled
by Keith
Gilmour



INSTITUTE BECKONS YOUTH

It seems certain that more and more of the country's leading juniors will be turning towards the Australian Institute of Sport for their soccer apprenticeships.

From the NSW viewpoint, the number of players from Sydney and Newcastle reaching the Young Socceroos is decreasing.

Well and good for the other parts of this vast country, but young New South Welshmen will have to look to their future.

Jim Shoulder is tabbing bright prospects from Under 16 onward under the Talent Identification Scheme.

In the first instance too much emphasis was placed on coaches' meetings

and the academic side, compared with concentrating on play in the National Championships.

Shoulder's basic efforts have proved very worthwhile as witness the gaining of a finals place in the World Youth Championship later this year.

There is a tendency for fine young players to look overseas for their careers. Soccer is much bigger and the rewards greater.

But not that many will make the grade. As Craig Johnston well knows, it takes tremendous grit to

make the top, and Australia is as good a country as any in which to live.

The 1970 national coach Joe Vlasits, who has always counted integrity and fair play as top qualities in a player's make-up, advises young players with aspirations to reach the top to be sure that they have suitable careers.

He recognises that few will play soccer full-time. No matter what their calling, he emphasises that they should obtain their basic work training so that their futures are assured



□ ACROSS THE WAVES players and coaches at Bundaberg airport on their return from the University of New England national soccer camp. BACK ROW: Gino Sergiacomi, Andrew Stillman, Stephen Woods. FRONT ROW: Chris Woods, Jason Trotter.

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AUSTRALIA'S U16 SQUAD

GEORGE BOUHOUTSOS

Birthdate: 3/4/69
Position: Goalkeeper
State: N S W.
Club: Sydney Olympic
Association/League: NSL Youth League
School: Randwick Boys
Main honours as player: Under 13, 14, 15 State,
Under 15 Australia
Ambitions in sport: To play for Australia
Ambitions in life: To become a policeman
Age commenced soccer: 8
First club: Pagewood Botany
Other sports: Swimming, running



BRETT THOMSON

Birthdate: 2/4/69
Position: Midfielder
State: South Australia
Club: Cumberland United
Association/League: Under 18
School: Mitchell Park High
Main honours as player: Playing for Australia
Under 15 in New Zealand
Ambitions in sport: To play for Australia in Senior
Soccer
Ambitions in life: Just to stay happy and become a
hardresser
Age commenced soccer: 5
First club: Cumberland United



MARK TALAJICH

Birthdate: 2/7/69
Position: Midfield
State: Victoria
Club: Melbourne Croatia
Association/League: Melbourne Croatia Juniors
School: Fawkner Tech.
Main honours as player: Represented Australia
U15 and Vic U13, 14, 15
Ambitions in sport: Play for Australian seniors
Ambitions in life: To do the best at whatever I take
on
Age commenced soccer: 8
First club: Croatia
Other sports: Swimming, basketball



MICHAEL GRAHAM

Birthdate: 6/2/69
Position: Defender
State: Northern NSW
Club: Wallsend
Association/League: Newcastle Junior Assn.
School: Wallsend High
Main honours as player: Played for Australia as a
junior, Northern NSW U13, 14, 15 representative
Ambitions in sport: To play in World Cup for
Australia
Ambitions in life: To get a good apprenticeship
Age commenced soccer: 4½
First club: Jesmond
Other sports: Surfing, cricket



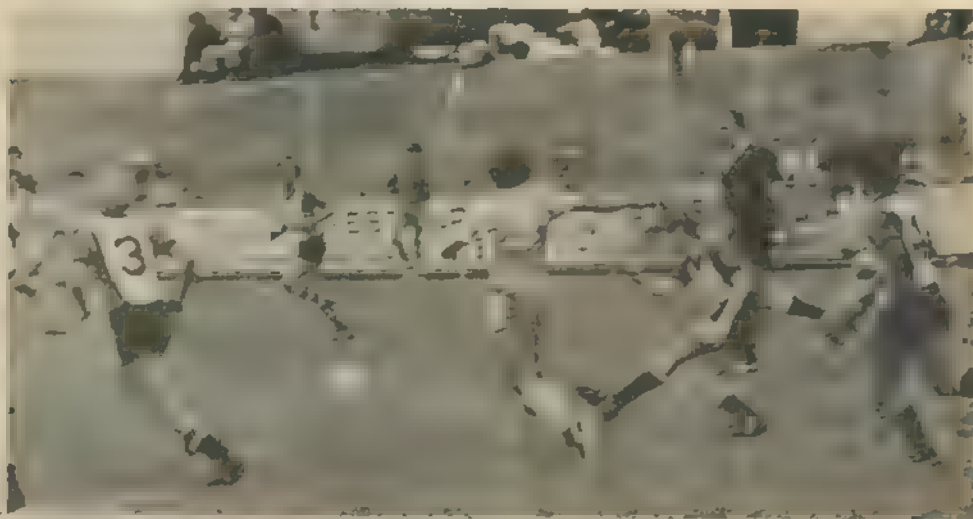
MINI AMPOL CUP FINAL

BLACKTOWN CITY and Marconi finished up scoreless in the battle for the 1985 Mini Ampol Cup.

As a result they are to replay the final at Marconi Stadium on Sunday April 7. The Mini Ampol Cup provides a bright opening to the season for the important Under 13 age group.

It was the Demons' big day as their senior team won their first major trophy by defeating Penrith City 2-1 with a late goal from their developing striker John Larkin.

Here is ASW's record of the fine football, the competing teams, the tensions and the officials in the first run-off at St George Stadium.



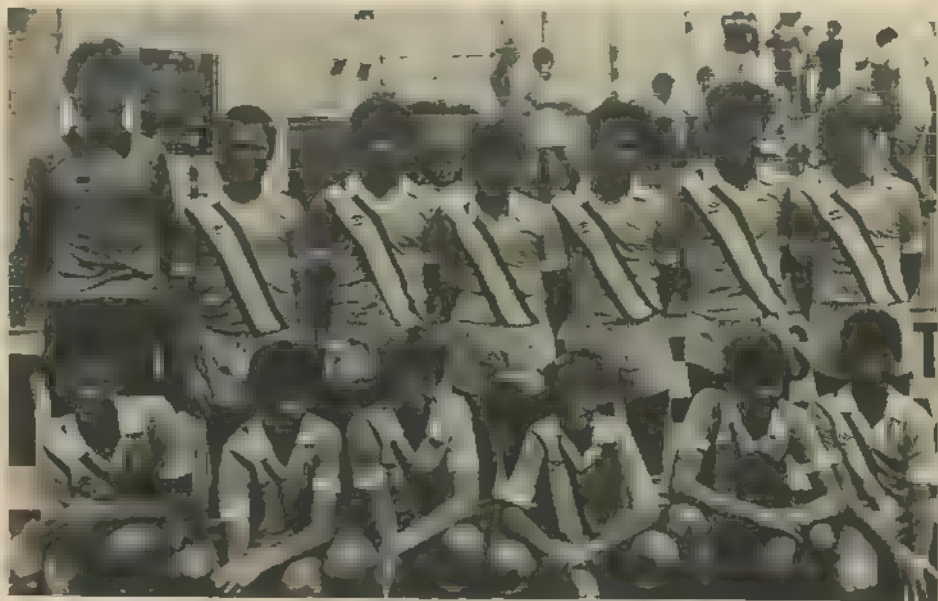
□ MARCONI'S strongly-built striker John Rancic (light shirt) comes in as Blacktown City gets the pass away under the watchful eye of referee Geoff Sturren. Blacktown No 3 is Jason Cooper and No 4 Greg Ericson.



□ NO doubt that Marconi have attended to this clearance as they get the ball away with a 3-1 majority.



□ "MAN mountain" Mark Bosnich covers the ball completely under the watchful eye of the Blacktown attack. The confident Marconi defence, including No 4 Adam Cianter, makes the move back upfield.



□ THE Marconi squad: Mark Bosnich, John Rancic, Stephen Labbozzetta, Adam Cianter, Alvaro Cabral, Geoff Suzor, Tony Perinich, Clinton Norris, Paul Okon, Dick Esho, John Rancic, Matthew Cirni, Tom McPicevic, Steve Cavallaro.



□ THE Blacktown squad: John Crawley, Ken Irving, Jason Cooper, Graham Garrett, Greg Ericson, Kevin Healy, Robert Stanton, Mike Crosetta, Michael Lenz, Glen Johnson, Edward Clune, Andrew Bool, Brad Wiles, Phillip Maybury, John Bowles.



□ BLACKTOWN CITY coach David Lee with manager and reserves.



□ THE Marconi bench, with coach Klaus Okon on the right.

Force of habit at Townsville

WHEN Townsville's Under 12 representative team won the Gino Paris Cup at Gladstone at the end of last season, it was the sixth year in succession that it had gone their way.

Competing on this occasion were squads drawn from Gladstone, Johnstone River, Mackay, Burdekin, Rockhampton, Cairns, Mt Isa as well as Townsville.

Long hours of training paid off when 100 percent team effort carried them to six wins with one

loss. The goal record was 18 for and three against.

It was a great "double event" for the Townsville boys, who had won the Fred Grahme Shield earlier in the year in Gladstone.

— BARBARA PRESTON

Soccer comes to Stockinbingal

NEW clubs Stockinbingal and Wagga Olympic have been accepted into membership of the Northern Riverina Soccer League.

Stockinbingal, between Cootamundra and Temora, was a surprise entry.

In addition Young is again fielding its team and Hanwood is joining up.

The NRSL will also have Leeton in the competition after a few points are sorted out with the Griffith Soccer Association.

Last season Harden, Police Boys, Lake Albert and Leeton joined up, so this relatively young competition is proving extremely popular with the clubs.

Matches start on March 17 with the Maples Cup, a trophy that has been around since the 1920s.

Actual premiership competitions open on April 21. 'A' Division clubs have two teams and 'B' Division one.

Lake Albert had promoted last year's U16 players and added a few seniors, enabling them to compete in the 'A' Division.

The guiding hand behind the emergence of the NRSL is Ray Verdon of Henwood Park Soccer Club at Wagga.

Ray came on to the soccer scene 11 years ago through his son's participation in the sport.

He is the competition co-ordinator and is widely regarded as the "Godfather" of the League.

— FRANK FINLAY

North Rocks anniversary

NORTH ROCKS Soccer Club, prominent in the Granville District and one of Sydney's biggest junior clubs, is keen to obtain historical details of its background from former players and supporters.

Items of interest both written and photographic can be supplied to president Bernie Duval on 871 8336 or Vi Nutt on 872 2188.

All material is needed by March 31 so that articles of in-

AMUNDSEN CUP FOR BEGA

THIS year the gathering place for teams entering the 1985 Johs Amundsen Cup for Under 14 players will be the NSW South Coast centre of Bega.

Tournament convenor Karl Posselt holds entries for the Easter competition from North Tasmania, Southern Tablelands, Belnorth Soccer Club (ACT), St Ives, Croydon City, ACT Soccer Academy A and B teams, Como-West Jannali and Far South Coast as well as 1984 winners, the Albury-Wodonga representative team.

Entries could also come from Macarthur, Singleton and Shoalhaven Association.

Last year a colossal 30,000 lamingtons were sold by Karl and his soccer fanatics to cover the expenses.

The committee are aiming for more local support which perhaps would be more forthcoming if more of the higher class teams from the area come in.

— FRANK FINLAY

Turner Cup entries

ENTRIES for the Bill Turner Cup should be sent as quickly as possible to the area co-ordinators mentioned below.

School teams from both the public and private education sectors must compromise players who do not turn 15 before January 1, 1985.

The entry forms have been distributed and were also included in ASW for the past two weeks.

The co-ordinators are:
SYDNEY: John Moscovis (Epping Boys High).

Interest can be included in a book to mark the club's 20th anniversary.

Plans are also underway to further celebrate the occasion with a dinner at the big North Rocks Community Centre on Saturday, June 15.

Any person who has had associations with the club since 1965 is invited to attend the reunion.

Bookings close on the above telephone numbers on May 15, but an early booking is recommended.



YUGAL SOCCER CLUB

Youth League Players Wanted

Players are required for our Under 13, 14, 15 and 16 teams

**Trials at Jellicoe Park, Pagewood
Monday, Wednesday and Friday**



□ TOWNVILLE'S SUCCESSFUL GINO PARIS CUP SIDE:

Back row: Les Preston (manager), B. Cotgrove, S. O'Connor, R. Allan, S. Erickson, M. Courtney, P. Docherty, J. McMillan, D. Neilson, Stan Sarinas (coach).
Front row: J. Turner, M. Rayner, M. Walsh, J. Preston, J. Solomon, T. McAuliffe, T. Gilmora.

ROGER'S NEPEAN REPS

A BROKEN leg is certainly a misfortune, but in the case of Nepean's Roger Seal the mishap had its brighter side when he turned to coaching.

In 1980 he coached Penrith RSL U8/2 to success in the premiership and in the following years his teams registered wins in U9/1, 10/1, 11/1 and 12/1 grades.

One major victory was in 1982 when

his team won the NSW U10 Champion of Champions.

In addition he took over the 1984 Under 15 team and piloted them to a win in the same competition.

This year Roger is in charge of the U13 squad, which made a

good start in the Mini Ampol Cup.

After two losses the boys settled down to business. They were unbeaten from there on to finish second to Marconi.

A believer in attacking football,

Roger says: "Games are won by scoring goals rather than by stopping the opposition from scoring."

He certainly aims to give the U13 Youth League a shaking this year.

— GEORGE CHURCHWARD



HUNTER: Dudley Lewis (Booragui).
UPPER NORTH COAST: Colin Blake (Richmond River HS).
UPPER NORTH WEST: Brian Bloggs (Oxley-Tamworth).
ACT: Peter Weddell (Sports Organisation Canberra).
SOUTH COAST: Fred Smith (Berkley HS).
RIVERINA: Dave Dunn (Koorringal HS).
FAR WEST: Alan Groth (Lithgow HS).
CENTRAL COAST: Angus Payne (Wyong HS).

Entries have been extended for one week and will now officially close on 22/3/85.

KU-RING-GAI DISTRICT SOCCER ASSOCIATION PLAYERS WANTED

FOR UNDER 15 AND UNDER 16 YOUTH LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS
Pre-season training Tuesday & Thursday
5.30pm to 7.30 pm

Warrimoo Oval, Warrimoo Rd, St Ives
Vacancies also exist for interested coaches at Rep level.

Over the past four years 23 of our players were selected to represent NSW.

BE PROUD — WEAR THE GREEN AND WHITE OF KU-RING-GAI

Inquiries: PHIL JONES, Director of Coaching
487 3635
or PHIL REES, Rep Convenor
44 2190

International Profile



JULIE DOLAN

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

JULIE DOLAN, captain of the national women's soccer team, and vice-captain and Queensland skipper Susan Monteath (both midfielders) are Australia's most experienced international players.

Julie led Australia in the World Women's Invitational Tournament in Taiwan recently, but did not have an exciting tour. Julie puts this down to being away from the tough competitive football of the Sydney league.

This season Dolan is back in Sydney, concentrating on her fitness to regain the form that made her one of the greatest soccer players this country has ever produced.

BIRTHDATE: January 5, 1961.

BIRTHPLACE: Sydney.

HEIGHT: 5'5".

PLAYING POSITION: Central midfield.

OCCUPATION: PR girl for a security firm.

CLUBS PLAYED FOR: St George, Marconi, Ballina, Sutherland, Grange Thistle, Arncliffe Scots.

FAVOURITE MUSIC: Rock.

FAVOURITE FILM STARS: Mel Gibson, Richard Gere.

FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Jimmy Rooney, Frank Farina, Sandy Brentnall, Cindy Heydon, Toni McMahon.

FAVOURITE OVERSEAS PLAYERS: Glenn Hoddle, George Best.

WHAT IMPRESSED YOU MOST AT THE WORLD TOURNAMENT IN TAIWAN? Overall organisation by the Taiwanese, the professionalism. Also the performance of the West Germany team, as well as the Taiwan side, Mulan.

WHAT DO YOU HATE MOST WHEN OVERSEAS? Chinese food! No, really the complete lack of team preparation prior to departure. Also the different environmental factors having an unsettling affect on the players as well as the different accommodation standards we come across.

ADVICE TO OFFICIALS FOR FUTURE TOURS: Basically to have proper team preparation prior to the team travelling overseas with better organisation.

STATE TITLES ON BORDER

THE 1985 NSW Women's State Championships will be hosted by Albury Wodonga WSA at the Border Soccer Club in June.

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

Local president, Mrs Charne Turner, said that the AWWSA "will be on show to prove that not only are the country people hospitable, but they can also play soccer."

Mrs Turner has just taken over her position and will work in harness with secretary Mrs Terry Cotterill, who has kept the association moving since it was formed in 1979.

This year there will be nine senior teams in the district. Last year, four Under 13 eight-a-side teams were established.

Melrose Park Rangers had an outstanding season and won the League, the Cup championship and the Anzac Day Cup.

Other office bearers are vice president K. Calhoun, treasurer Mrs Ethel Wilson, registrar B. Sullivan, recorder Mrs H. Finlay, PRO Frank Finlay and disputes committee Mrs Noeline Regulski.



□ MRS TERRY COTTERILL

Women are affiliated

THE Oceania Women's Football Confederation won associate affiliation to the regional body at its recent meeting.

Until now, tournaments such as the Oceania Cup in New Caledonia in 1983 and in Fiji last season have not been under the international Federation umbrella.

FIFA has ruled that it wants all football competitions, including women's and indoor organisations, under its own roof.

Associate affiliation will give Oceania women more direct access to competitions throughout the world when opportunities arise and funds permit.

There is a provision in the Confederation statutes that it can have a second look at affiliations already granted.

But Oceania delegates made it clear that would not be allowed to happen.

OCEANIA CUP IN NEW ZEALAND

NEW ZEALAND will be the venue for the next Oceania Cup tournament, Allan Hampton, the president of the AWSA announced last night.

The Cup will be staged sometime around mid-October, with New Zealand, Australia and New Guinea participating.

Fiji, the Solomons, Hawaii and South-East Asia could be possible entrants but not confirmed to date.

New Zealand, under coach Roy Cox, won the inaugural Cup in Noumea in November 1983, defeating Australia 3-2 after Australia hit the lead 2-0 in the first seven minutes through goals by Sandy Brentnall and Julie Dolan.

Barbara Cox, aged 38 and wife of the New Zealand coach, together with Maureen Jacobson, proved Australia's undoing in the final.

Jacobson, a powerful midfielder, hit a 35 metre "bomb" in the second half, giving Australia's goalkeeper, Vicky Salmon, no chance.

The New Zealand Women's Association has just appointed Roy Cox as manager of the national team for a further term of three years.

ROBINS WANTS TO BE BEST-EVER NATIONAL COACH

BY VAN DIEMEN

FRED ROBINS, the Australian national women's team coach, was in Hobart recently to conduct a coaching clinic. I caught up with him just before he left for the Camp Carlton training venue.

Q: Has women's soccer improved in Australia?

A: I think it has improved in the three years I've been involved. Maybe the game hasn't improved technically or skilfully, but physically it has. There are now fewer injuries at national championships which seems to indicate that the girls have become stronger and fitter.

Q: Do you think it is unladylike for women to play soccer?

A: There's a lot of things that are unladylike in my book today. When you see women tennis players, they can be vicious players.



□ FRED ROBINS

You can look at basketball, a supposedly non-contact sport, and sometimes those women players are a bit vicious, too. They're getting into cricket and it won't be long before they're bowling bouncers. I'm chauvinistic really because I don't think they should have played the game, but, they are playing it, I think they need help and I'm prepared to give them help. I don't, personally, think it's unladylike. In Taiwan last year I saw a lot of ladies playing it and playing it well.

Q: What are your aims as national team coach?

A: I want to be the best national coach there's been. I want a few games to prove points, to select a good team and to have a good team. I would also like to see that Australia gets on the road with coaches prepared to put the work in and develop the game that I saw in Taiwan because I was amazed that the game can be played at such a high competitive level. I believe we should go all the way, as other countries have done. Whether or not we can do it is another thing.

Q: Are there any problems peculiar to coaching women?

A: At first I believed that you've got to get women into coaching women because of the closeness that's required between coaches and players in the dressing room. It seems a bit foreign to sit down across from a woman and talk soccer while she's changing. But that's not a major problem because most of them get changed before they come to training. On the park there's no need for anything to change. I thought at first I'd have to be more lenient but that's not true. Women are quite capable of doing the same amount of physical work as men.

Q: How do you compare the ability of men and women in soccer?

A: The strongest men will always beat the strongest women but, in the average set-up, there's not a lot of difference. It's not really of much use to compare the men's sport with the women's.

Q: How does a girl get to the top?

A: There's only one way to the top: dedicate yourself to a certain amount of time and force yourself to do that amount of time per week to put in to attain the technique and the fitness that's necessary. If you've got the motivation, you'll get there. There's no short cut.

Q: How does Australia rank with some of the other countries?

A: Australia is far behind the eight-ball when it comes to matching other countries, both physically and psychologically. It's unbelievable, for example, what the Chinese do. They don't leave a stone unturned. They trained for four months before the Taiwan tournament. I don't know whether we can achieve that level of organisation.

MITRE are proud to be sponsors of the Australian women's international Soccer team



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"Proud Sponsors of the Australian Womens' Soccer Team"



THE players look a muddy mess in Turin where Juventus beat Sparta Prague 3-0 in the European Cup. The challenge on Sparta goalkeeper Stejskal comes from Europe's Player of the Year, Michel Platini.

LUCKY LIVERPOOL GET A DRAW

LIVERPOOL, proud holders of the European Cup, look sure of a semi-final place in this season's Cup after getting a 1-1 draw against Austria Vienna in the first leg of the quarter final.

But it was a desperately close affair for Liverpool in Vienna.

Scot Steve Nicol forced the ball over the goal-line with only five minutes to go when it appeared as if the English team would be beaten.

Austria were in front from the 23rd minute when Toni Polster scored and, for much of the game, they deserved to be leading.

Liverpool's equaliser was grabbed by Nicol after a header from Ian Rush rebounded from the crossbar.

The home team's goal was far more attractive — Polster going around two Liverpool defenders before smashing a great shot past Bruce Grobbelaar.

There were surprises, even shocks, in several other matches in the three big European competitions.

Real Madrid beat Tottenham Hotspur 1-0 at White Hart Lane, the vital goal being debited to Spurs skipper Steve Perry-

man who beat his own goalkeeper in the 14th minute.

In the UEFA Cup, Inter Milan and Manchester United failed to get the goals they sought but each managed a 1-0 win, a slender advantage to take into the away legs of their matches.

Franco Causio scored Inter's goal against FC Cologne and Irish international Frank Stapleton was United's marksman against Hungary's Videoton.

Juventus, the Italian giants, cruised home comfortably when they beat Sparta Prague 3-0 in Turin, indicating that the Platini-Boniek side will take some stopping in this year's European Cup.

Greek football received a great boost when Panathinaikos travelled to Gothenburg and returned home with an excellent 1-0 victory.

EUROPEAN CUP
Quarter-finals, first-leg
Austria Vienna (Aust) 1 Liverpool (holder, Eng) 1
Juventus (Italy) 3 Sparta Prague (Czech) 0
Bordeaux (Fra) 1 Dnepr Dnepropetrovsk (Soviet Union) 1
IFK Gothenburg (Swe) 0 Panathinaikos (Greece) 1
EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP
Quarter-finals, first-leg
Everton (Eng) 3 Fortuna Sittard (Holland) 0
Larissa (Greece) 0 Dynamo Moscow (Soviet Union) 0
Bayern Munich (W. Germ) 2 Roma (Italy) 0
Dynamo Dresden (E. Germ) 3 Rapid Vienna (Aust) 0
UEFA CUP
Quarter-finals, first-leg
Manchester United (Eng) 1 Videoton (Hung) 0
Zeljeznik Sarajevo (Yugo) 2 Dynamo Minsk (Soviet Union) 0
Internazionale (Italy) 1 Cologne (W. Germ) 0
Tottenham (holder, Eng) 0 Real Madrid (Spain) 1
All second leg matches to be played March 20.

Germans sign US youngster

WEST GERMAN talent scouts rarely venture across the Atlantic to the USA, but the Karlsruher club has signed 21-year-old Peter Scouras from San Diego.

In fact, this is the first time a German club has bought a player from America. Scouras was on a free transfer.

BRIEGEL HITS THE JACKPOT

WHEN Italian clubs bought up the world's greatest players — including every player of note in Brazil's World Cup squad — it was expected that Maradona, Socrates, Falcao and such world-renowned masters would dominate the headlines this season.

Strangely enough, these have NOT been the major success local team to an unexpected first division title.

Probably the biggest impact made by an import is at Verona where the lesser-known German, Hans Peter Briegel, is guiding the

Briegel, in fact, has just signed a new contract with Verona even though his present agreement still has a year to run.



HANS PETER BRIEGEL in possession during the 1982 World Cup Final. AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY — MARCH 11, 1985

Archibald's skin is saved

BARCELONA'S players probably saved Steve Archibald's skin when the Scottish import from Spurs was struggling early this season with Barcelona.

In his first two months, Archibald scored only two goals. He must have feared the worst when a delegation of his team-mates said they wanted to talk to him.

The players just wanted to say: "Don't worry about the goals — you are doing plenty of good things for the team."

Archibald, who now looks like finishing the season as Spain's top goalscorer, commented last week: "The support from the players was invaluable."

"You hear stories about how hard it is to settle abroad but that was a great gesture by my team-mates."

If Archibald looks settled, the Terry Venables - Allan Harris managerial duo at Nou Camp looks like breaking up.

As assistant to Venables, Harris has been a big hit but he now feels it is time to branch out on his own.

"I want to be number one, not an assistant, so I'm keen to take a manager's job in England," said Harris.

The tip is he'll take over Queens Park Rangers.

WORLD RESULTS

W. GERMANY										
Lok Leipzig v B. Hamburg 2-0										
Mannheim v Bremen	1-1									
Duiseldorf v Bielefeld	1-1									
Eintracht v Brunswick	2-0									
Hamburg v Karlsruhe	0-0									
Bor. M'bach v Leverkusen	1-1									
Cologne v Bayern	0-2									
Bochum v Dortmund	4-1									
Stuttgart v Uerdingen	5-2									
Schalke v K'auern	1-1									
Standings (tabulate under played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points):										
Bayern	13	5	4	4	30	31				
W. Bremen	10	8	3	0	35	28				
Uerdingen	11	3	7	4	30	35				
M'gladbach	9	6	5	0	35	24				
Cologne	11	2	7	4	37	24				

E. GERMANY										
C. Jena v H. Rostock	2-1									
Motor Suhl v W. A. A.	3-1									
D. Berlin v St. R. F. S.	3-0									
D. Dresden v Magdeburg	1-0									
K. M. Stadt v R. W. Erfurt	0-1									

HILL STARS AT INDOOR

GORDON HILL, formerly with Manchester United, is a big star now in USA indoor soccer.

Hill plays for Kansas City Comets. He was given the honour of switching on the Christmas lights in Kansas City, a job reserved for top celebrities.

The indoor League is going well in North America, with New York Cosmos, Minnesota Strikers, Chicago Sting and new teams in Dallas and Las Vegas all helping to swell the ranks to 14.

Meanwhile, "orthodox" soccer (outdoor) is going through the horrors.

There are only seven teams left in the NASL. Latest to fold is the formerly very powerful and affluent Tampa Bay Rowdies.



GORDON HILL

UK Scene

Devonshire comeback

AFTER 13 months out of football, West Ham's international midfielder Alan Devonshire (right) is counting the days to his comeback.

He has had a few reserve team runs and says his injured leg has stood up well. Devonshire wants to silence rumours that he will never play again.

"A few people have written me off and I want to prove they are wrong," he said.

If Devonshire does return to peak form and fitness, it'll be good news for England manager Bobby Robson.

Before being injured, Devonshire had seven England appearances to his credit and was much admired by Robson.



TALBOT FUTURE IS DOUBTFUL

BRIAN TALBOT was very upset when Arsenal dropped him for the glamour game against Manchester United.

Talbot, as ever-present this season, complained that he had been playing well — "the best of my career" — and scoring goals.

He is aware that when Arsenal paid Southampton \$750,000 for Steve Williams, a place for the new star had to be found in midfield.

As Talbot said: "Arsenal have paid a lot of money for a player and he is wearing my Number 4 shirt."

"It's not difficult to work out that a midfield at Highbury could be Williams, Stewart Robson and Graham Rix for a long time, but where does that leave me?"



RIGHT: BRIAN TALBOT (left) pictured in action for Arsenal against Gary Shaw of Aston Villa.

CLOUGH GETS CLOUGH

NIGEL CLOUGH has finally convinced his biggest critic that he can play football.

Nigel's dad, Brian Clough, is manager of Nottingham Forest but he has been reluctant to offer his boy professional terms until the youngster proves he can make the grade.

In Nigel's matches for Forest this season, he has played strictly as an amateur and, according to Brian, "hasn't even had spending money."

During the summer break, however, the younger Clough will sign as a full-time professional for Forest.

Nigel Clough is 18. And he is a centre-forward ... just like dad!

Boss warns 'behave'

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY paid QPR \$350,000 for Simon Stainrod but couldn't play their new capture for a fortnight after he signed.

Stainrod was serving two week's suspension.

And he was warned by Wednesday boss Howard Wilkinson: "There are some aspects of Simon's game with which I am totally out of tune. They will not be tolerated here."

The boss says he doesn't want Stainrod to get involved in retaliation, dissent or trouble with referees.

Simon Stainrod was always a Wednesday fan as a kid

but the club was not interested in signing him, so he started his professional career with rival Sheffield United.

He has not been happy at QPR recently and says: "The move to Wednesday could not have come at a better time."

IN BRIEF

CHELSEA'S first team squad flew to Marbella in Spain for a four-day golfing holiday to tune up for the vital Milk Cup semi-final against Sunderland.

The treatment didn't bring the desired result, as Chelsea lost 3-2 to Sunderland.

□ □ □

WHEN Brighton's Dutch midfielder Hans Kraay was substituted against Cardiff City, he tore off his shirt and threw it on the pitch.

Kraay copped a fine of \$700 for his show of petulance.

As Brighton boss Chris Cattlin said: "I have fined the player two weeks wages. Nobody throws the blue and white shirt of Brighton on the floor."

□ □ □

JEREMY CHARLES has been added to Oxford United's impressive playing staff and hopes to play a part in getting the team into the First Division.

Charles missed out on a chance to play in Portugal but was clearly unhappy to remain with QPR in London.

A Welsh international, able to play in defence or attack, Charles cost Oxford \$150,000. He says: "I'll play anywhere for Oxford."

Robson dumps two stars

THE much-publicised blow-up between Southampton manager Lawrie McMenemy and his star players, Mark Wright and Steve Williams, was not forgotten when England manager Bobby Robson named his World Cup squad to play Northern Ireland.

Wright and Williams (now with Arsenal) were both left out and Robson admitted he did it deliberately as a disciplinary measure.

As Robson explained: "I was very upset over what happened at Southampton."

"Both players figure strongly in my long-term plans and I still see Wright as England's best young centre-half."

"They have been left out only for this one match as a disciplinary move."



□ MARK WRIGHT

MARK TAKES THE KICKS

MARK HATELEY'S success with AC Milan is not being achieved without a big struggle.

Hateley (right) nearly had to pull out of England's World Cup team to play Northern Ireland after a terrible tackle by AS Roma's tough guy Dario Bonetti.

He sustained a 10-inch wound from ankle to knee on his right leg.

"The tackles are really coming in now," said Hateley. "This tackle was one of the worst I've known — if he had connected properly, he'd have taken my leg off."

The former Portsmouth centre-forward is also nursing an ear injury — after copping an elbow to the head.

